



NOHRSC Overview

Carrie Olheiser

Operations Manager & Chief Snow Survey

National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center

Office of Hydrologic Development National Weather Service, NOAA U.S. Department of Commerce









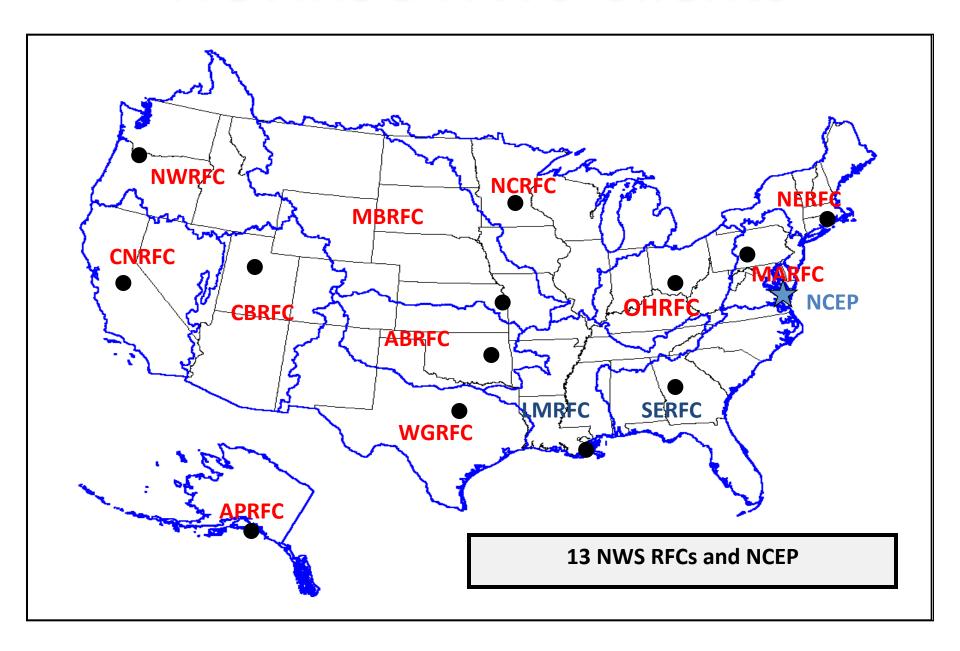
NOHRSC

NOHRSC Mission

To support the National Weather Service's mission by producing the best estimate of snow water equivalent using all available data including satellite, airborne, and in-situ observations to protect life and property and the enhancement of the national economy.



NOHRSC NWS Clients



Stakeholders

National Weather Service

- 13 River Forecast Centers
- Weather Forecast Offices

Federal and State Agencies

- •U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Bureau of Reclamation
- •New York Department of Environmental Protection
- •Natural Resources Conservation Service
- •Department of Transportation
- Montana Department of Emergency Services
- •San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- •University of Albany ASRC/ CESTM
- •University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute
- •National Snow and Ice Data Center
- •FEMA

Private Sector

- Baron Advanced Meteorological Systems, LLC
- Weather Channel
- Meteorlogix, Inc.
- Merrril Lynch
- Weather Decision Technologies, Inc.
- SnowStreet
- AccuWeather
- Snow Plow Operators
- Oppenheimer
- Campbell Soup Company
- Snowmobile outfitters
- Mountaineers
- General Public

Canadian

- Manitoba
 Department of
 Natural Resources
- New Brunswick
 Department of
 Natural Resources
- Alberta Environment
- BC Hydro
- British Columbia Ministry of Environment
- Environment Canada
- Saint John River
 Basin Commission



Multi-sensor Snow Observations

Snow Modeling and Data
Assimilation

Snow Information Products

Airborne

Satellite

Numerical Weather Prediction Model Forcings Gridded Snow Characteristics U.S. 1-km² Hourly

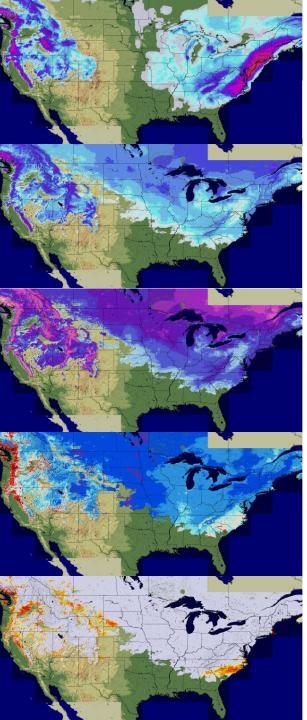
Data Products

Interactive Maps

Time Series Plots

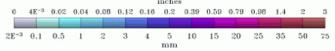
Text Discussions





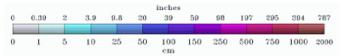
Snowfall

24-Hour Total Ending 2006-02-21 06 UTC



Snow Depth

2006-02-21 06 UTC



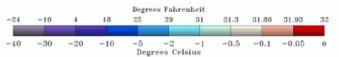
Snow Water Equivalent

2006-02-21 06 UTC

						inc	hes						
0	$4E^{-3}$	0.04	0.2	0.39	0.98	2	3.9	5.9	9.8	20	30	39	79
0	0.01	0.1	0.5	1	2.5	5	10	15	25	50	75	100	200
						0	TO.						

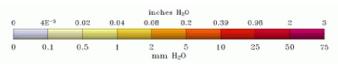
Snowpack Temperature

24-Hour Average Ending 2006-02-21 06 UTC



Snow Melt

24-Hour Total Ending 2006-02-21 05 UTC



PRODUCTS

- Hourly and Daily
- 1 km² Resolution

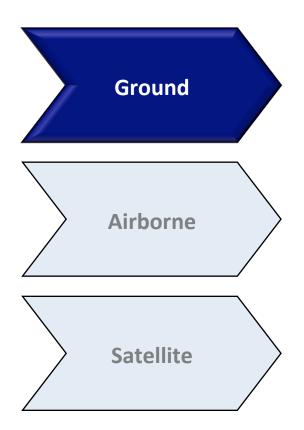
INTERNET

- Interactive Maps
- 3D Visualization
 - e.g. Google Earth
- Time-series loops
- National/Regional Discussions
- Text summaries by watershed
- Point Queries

DIRECT FEED

- Push or Pull
- Gridded Data
- Flat Binary or GIS-ready

Multi-sensor Snow Observations



National Weather Service

- First-order Stations
- Cooperatives

Federal and State Agencies

- NRCS SNOTEL and Snow Courses
- USACE New England District Snow Surveys
- Federal Aviation Administration
- California Dept. of Water Resources

Regional Mesonets and Surveys

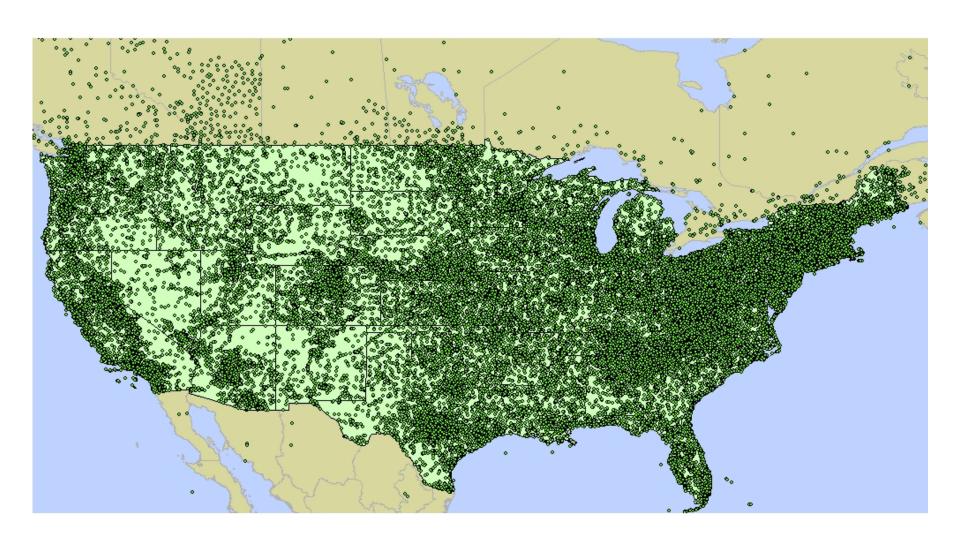
- State Mesonets
- CoCoRAHS
- MesoWest (150 smaller mesonets)

International Agencies

- St. John River Basin
- Environment Canada
- BC Hydro

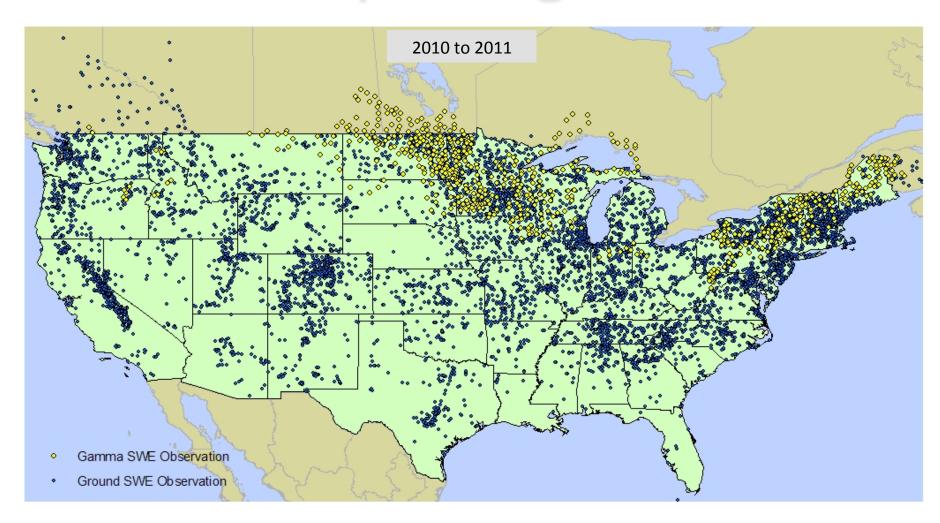
Over 50,000 Current Reporting Stations / over 125,000 in NOHRSC database

All Reporting Stations



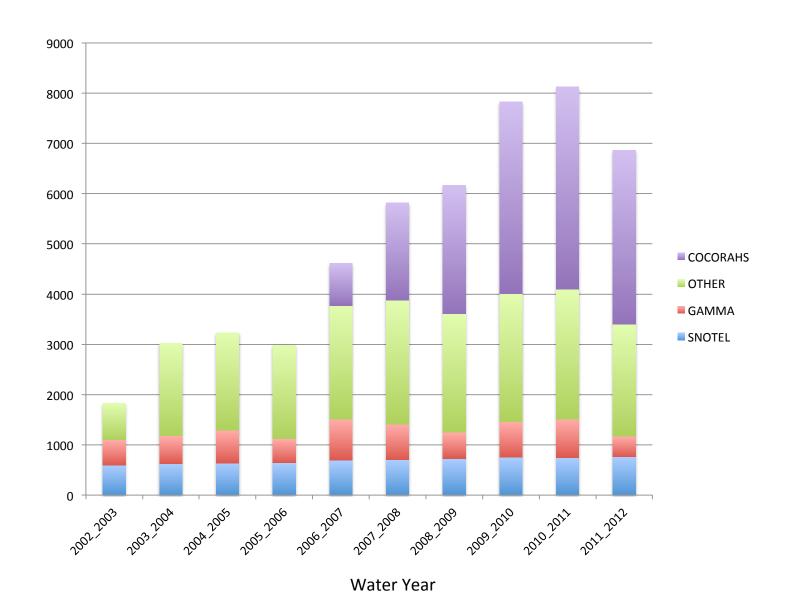


SWE Reporting Stations

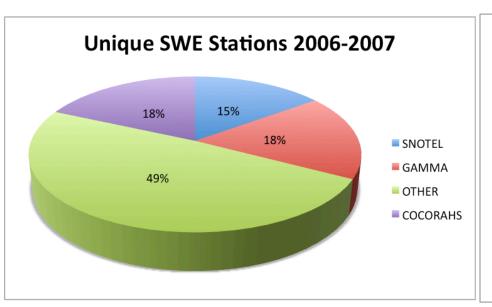


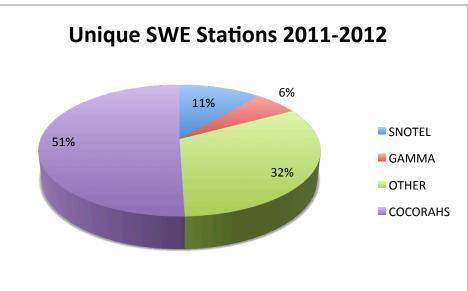
In 2012 NOHRSC received 6,370,790 SWE observations And 8,234,088 Snow Depth Observations





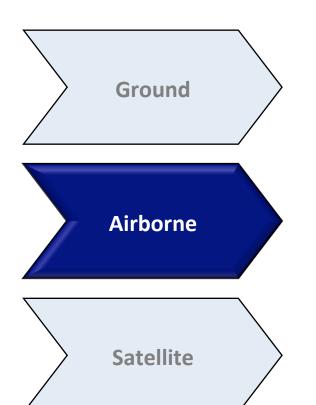
Snow Water Equivalent Stations





- NOHRSC started ingesting CoCoRaHS data in 2006
- Since 2006 the number of SWE stations has increase from ~4000 to more than ~8000 stations.
- The total contribution of SWE reporting stations from CoCoRaHS has increased from 18% to 51%!

Multi-sensor Snow Observations



NWS Airborne Snow Survey Program



- Snow Water Equivalent Measurement
 - Attenuation of natural terrestrial gamma radiation by water in snow



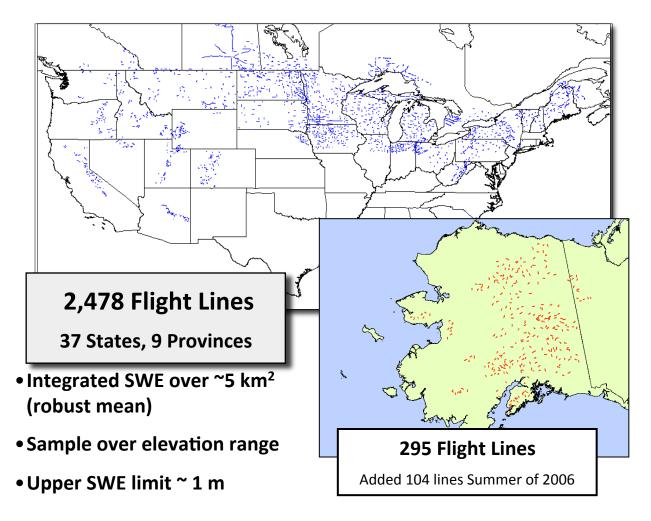
Multi-sensor Snow Observations

Ground

Airborne

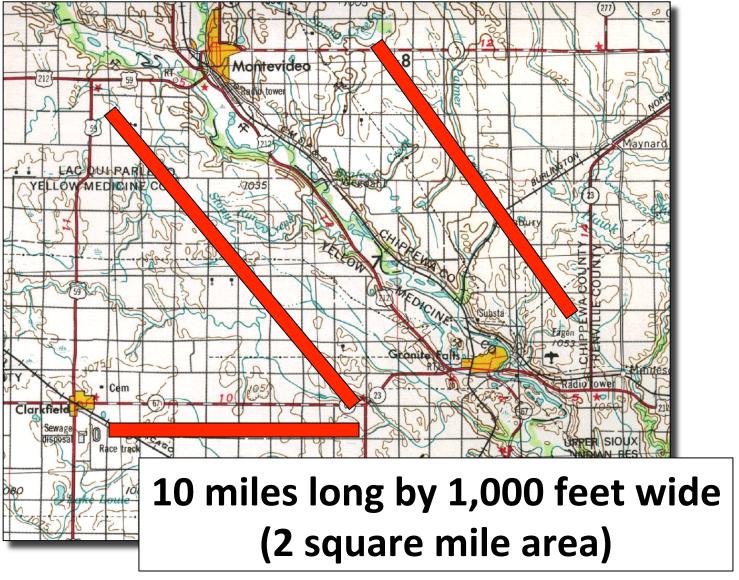
Satellite

Airborne Snow Survey Program Flight Line Network

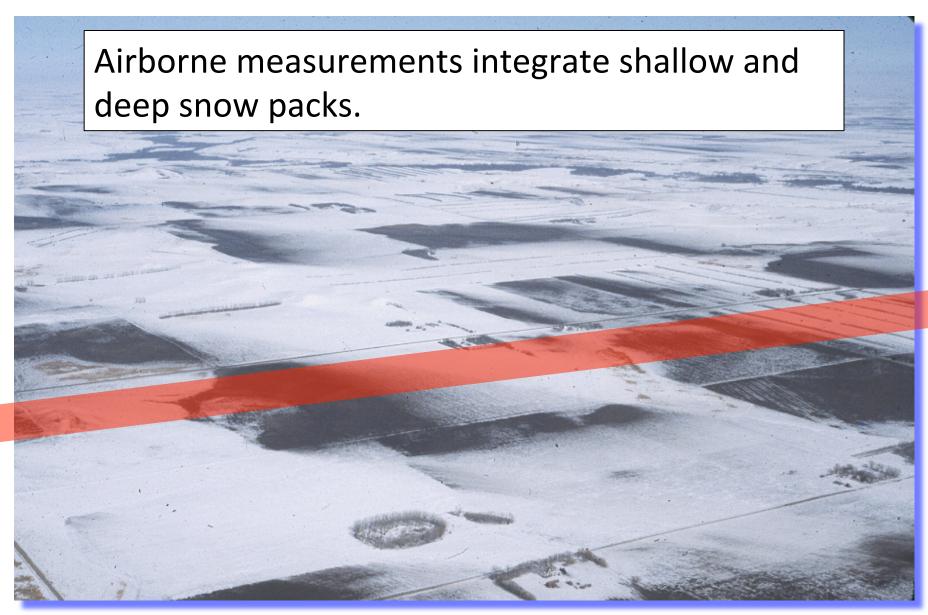




Typical Flight Line

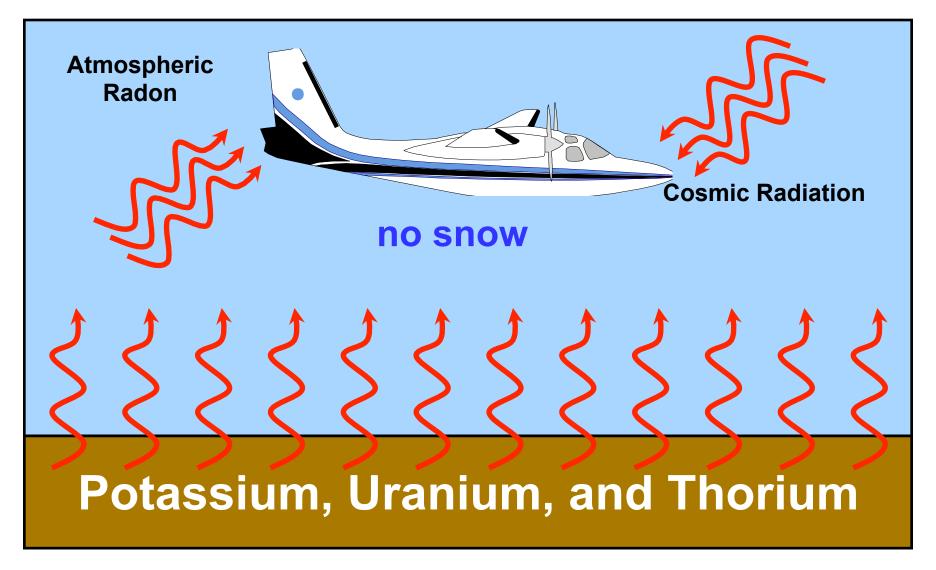






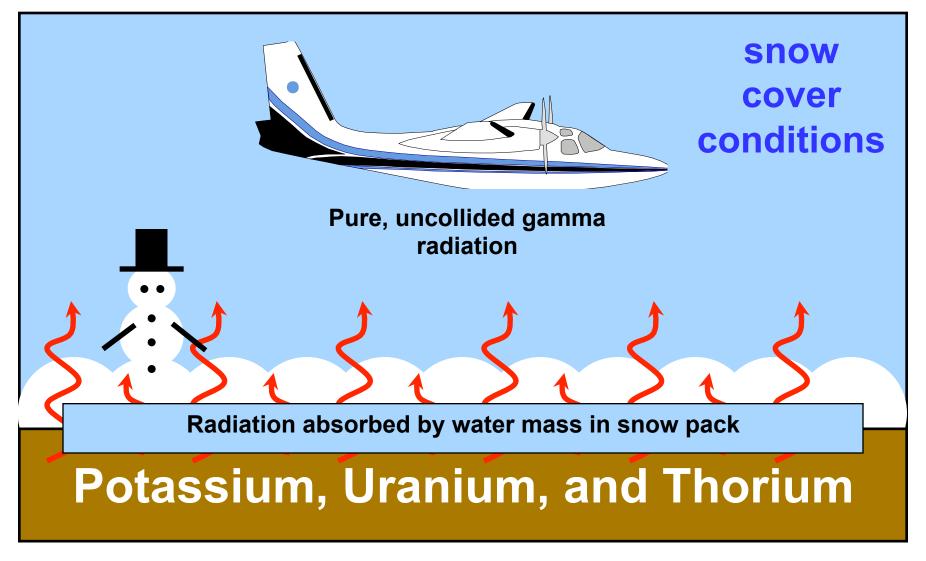


Natural Terrestrial Gamma Radiation

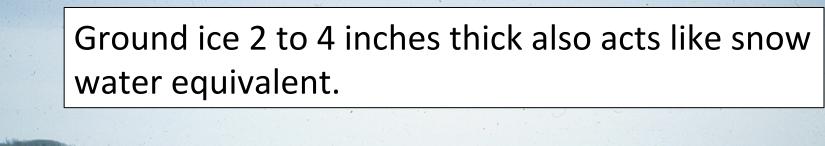




Natural Terrestrial Gamma Radiation



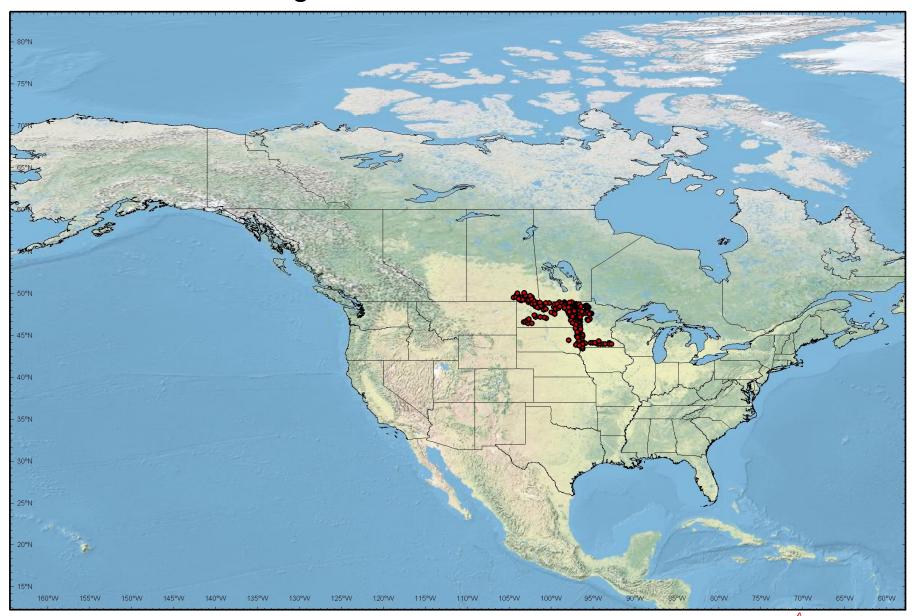








Gamma Flightline Data 1980-10-01 to 1981-10-01

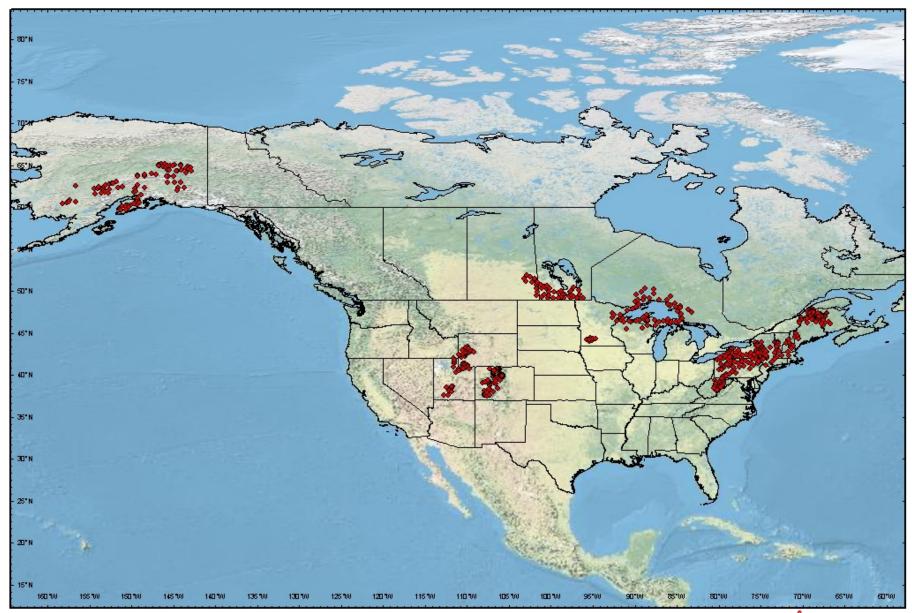


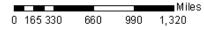






Gamma Flightline Data 2002-10-01 to 2003-10-01

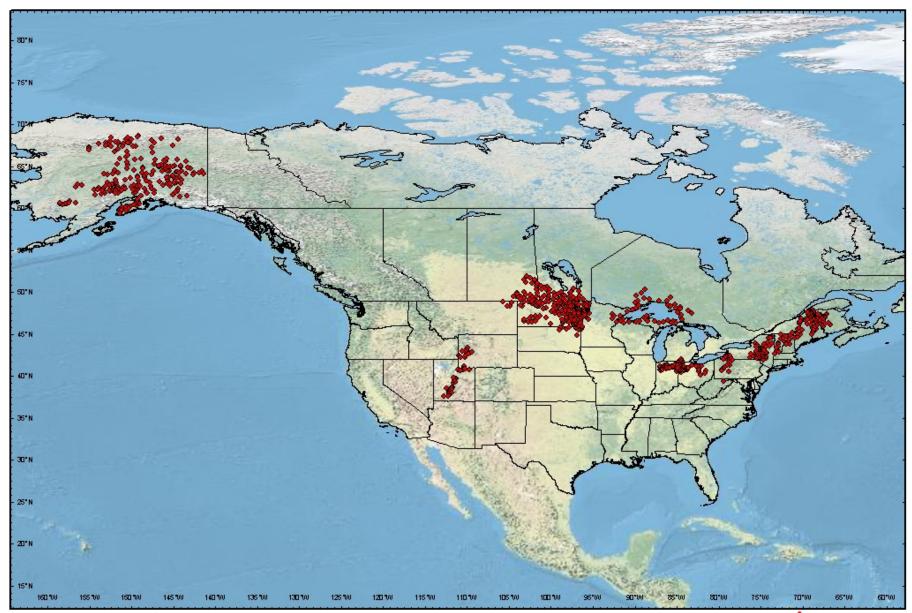








Gamma Flightline Data 2008-10-01 to 2009-10-01

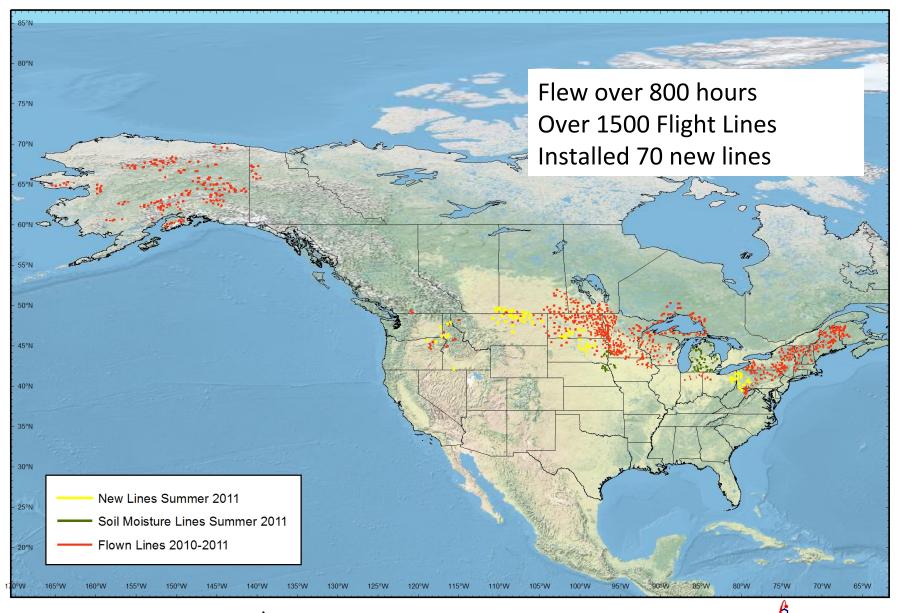






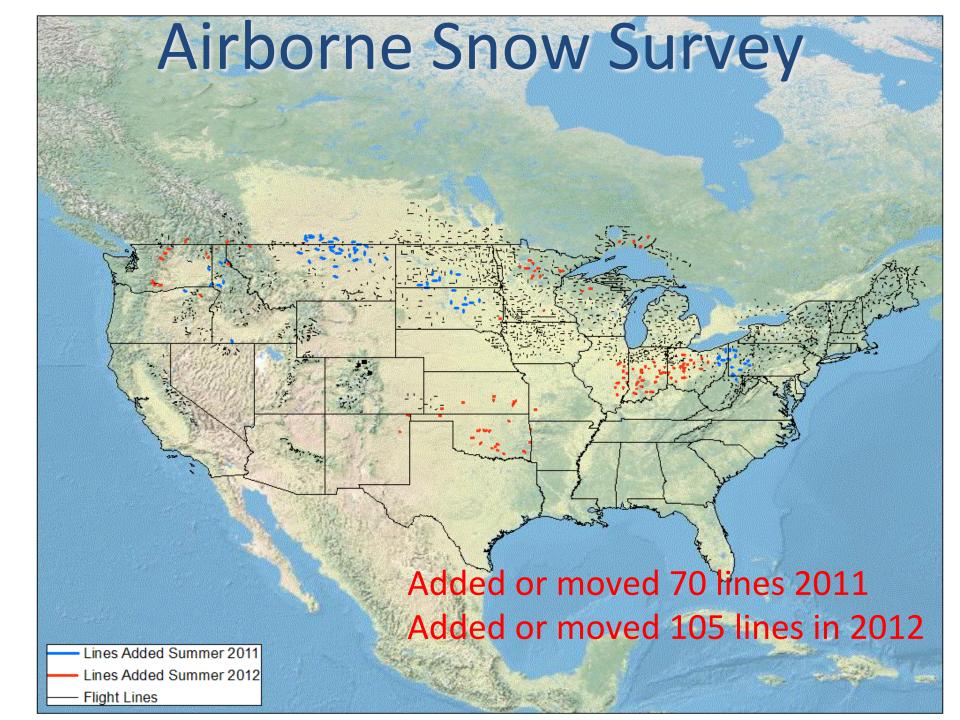


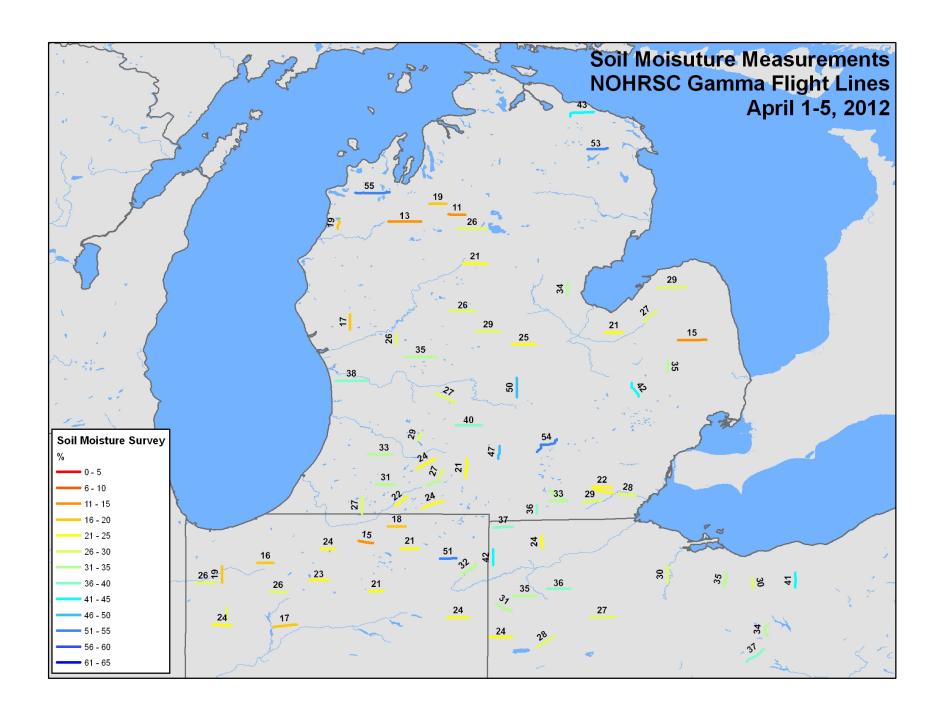
Gamma Flight Line Summary 2010 - 2011

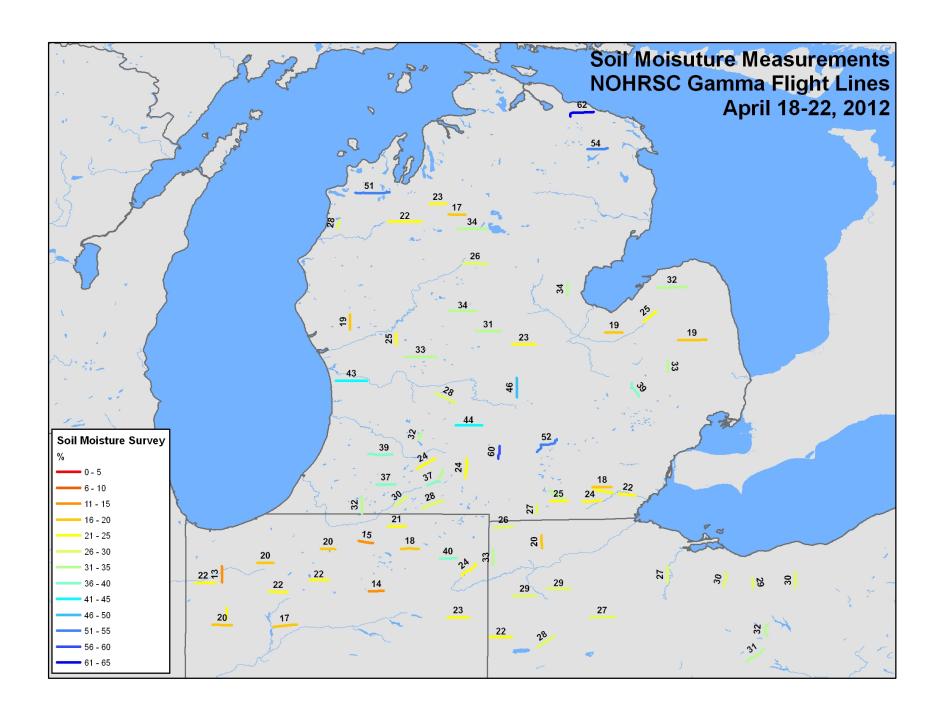


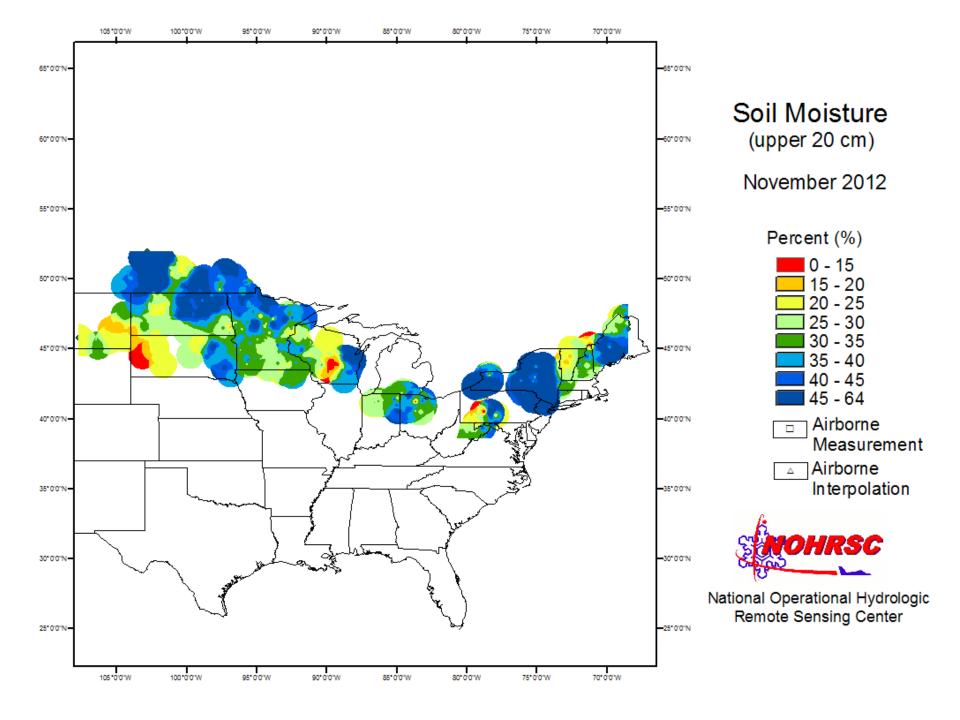
1,320



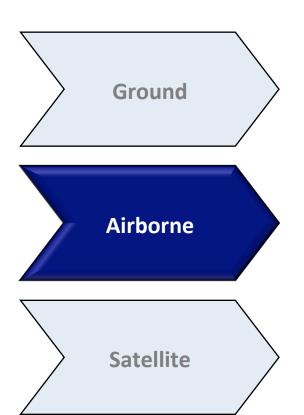


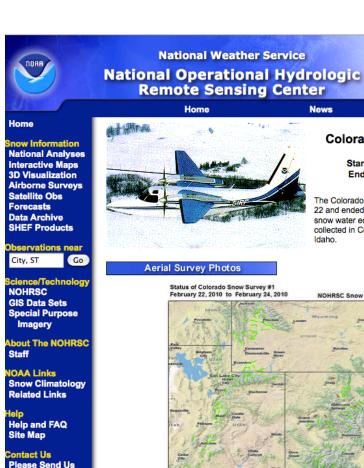




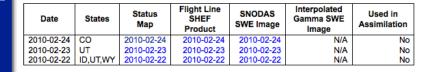


Multi-sensor Snow Observations





Comments! **ÚSA.**gov



Organization

Colorado Snow Survey #1

Started February 22, 2010

Ended February 25, 2010

The Colorado Snow Survey started on Feburary

Flightline Status

Flight Line Status

115 Completed

6 Not Comple

95 % Complet

22 and ended on February 25, 2010, Gamma

snow water equivalent measurements were

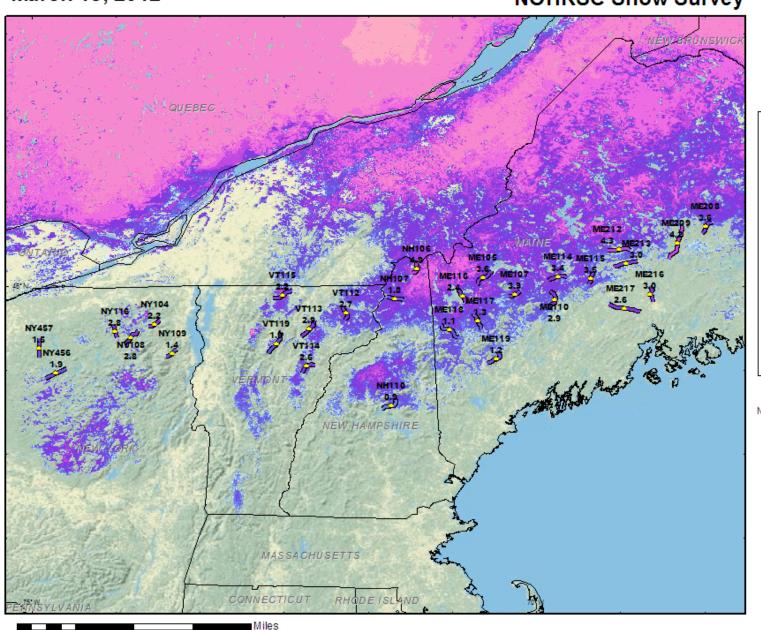
collected in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and

NOHRSC Snow Survey



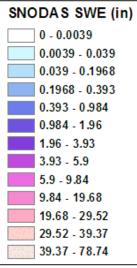
NSA Snow Water Equivalent March 18, 2012

NOHRSC Snow Survey





National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center



Office of Hydrology National Weather Service, NOAA Chanhassen, MN

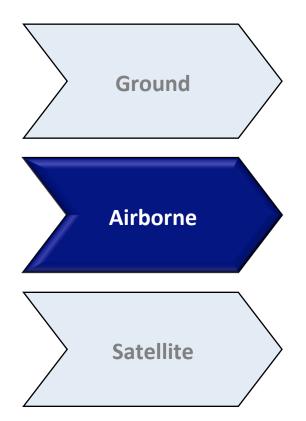


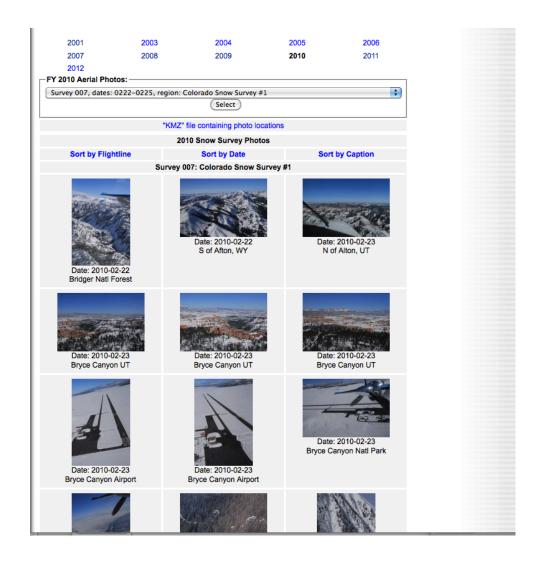




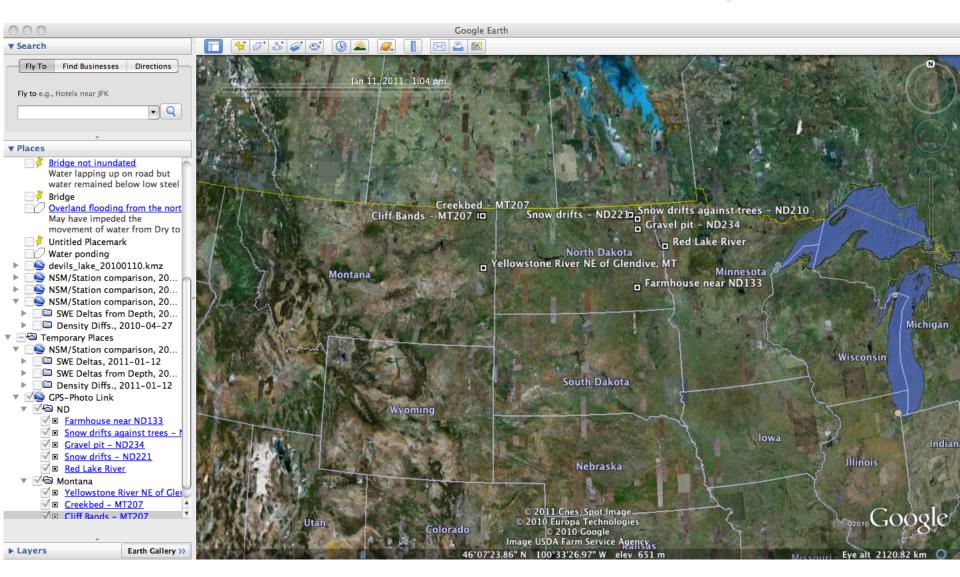
160

Multi-sensor Snow Observations

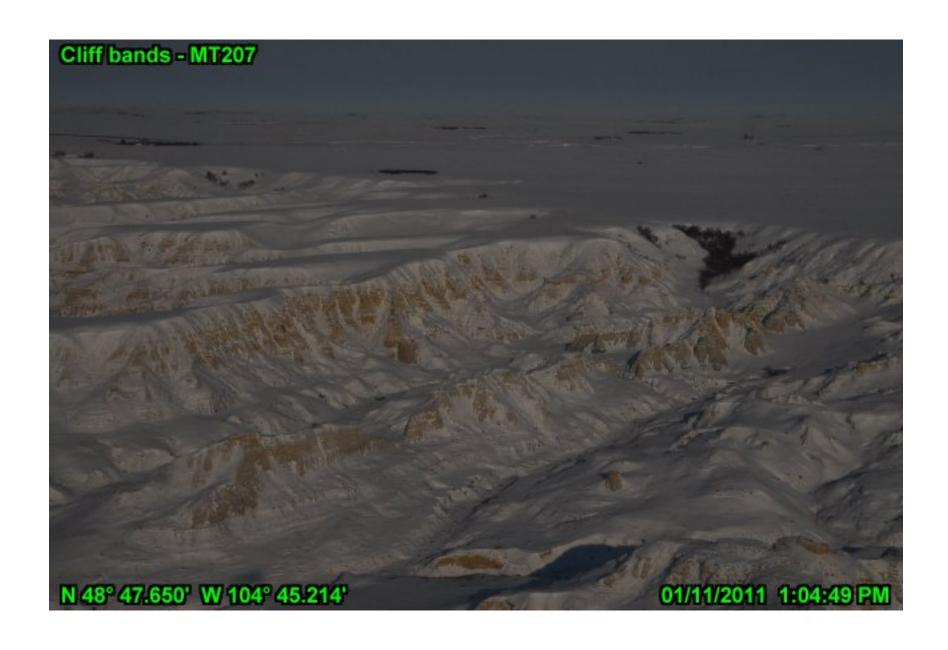












Flood Recon

Quick Facts:

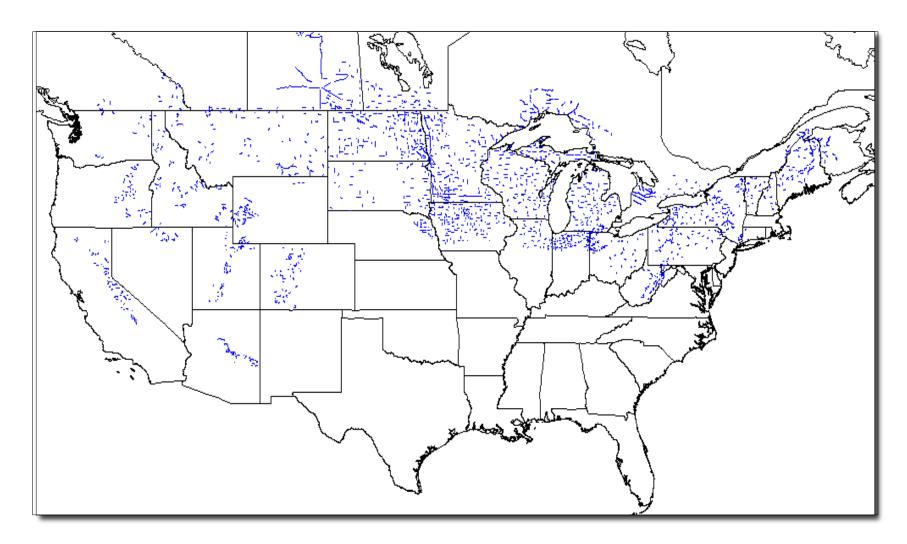
- Flooding causes \$4.5 billion worth of damage annually in the U.S.
- Responsible for 75% of all Presidential disaster declarations.
- Claims more than 130 lives annually.





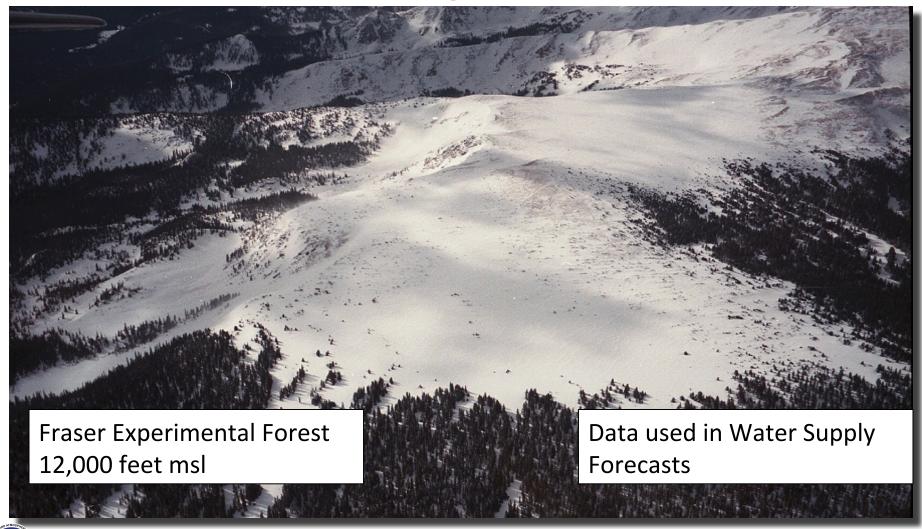




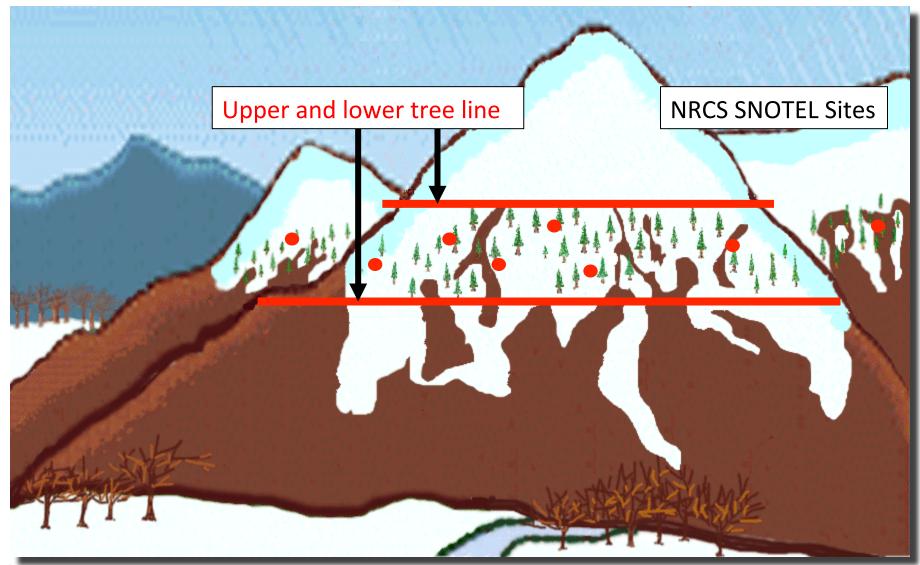




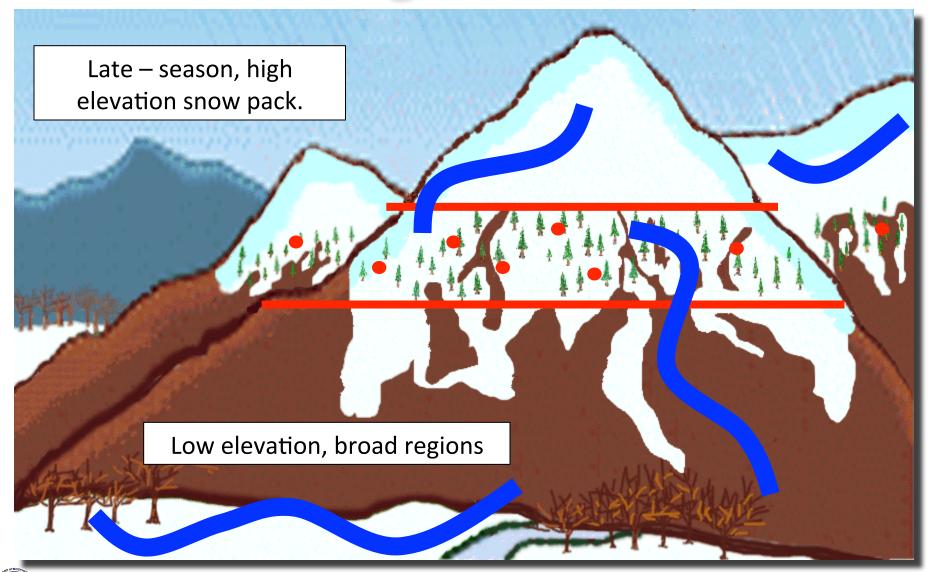
Colorado flight line EX122













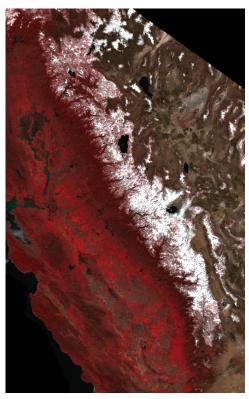
MODSCAG Algorithm, images courtesy of T. Painter, U. Utah

Multi-sensor Snow Observations

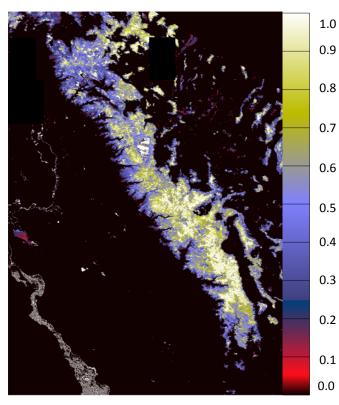
Ground

Airborne

Satellite



EOS Terra
MODIS
Sierra Nevada, Mar 7 2004



Fractional Snow Cover



Observations alone are not enough!



Multi-sensor Snow Observations

Snow Modeling and Data
Assimilation

Snow Information Products

Ground

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Satellite

Numerical Weather Prediction Model Forcings

Gridded Snow Characteristics

U.S.

1-km²

Hourly

Data Products

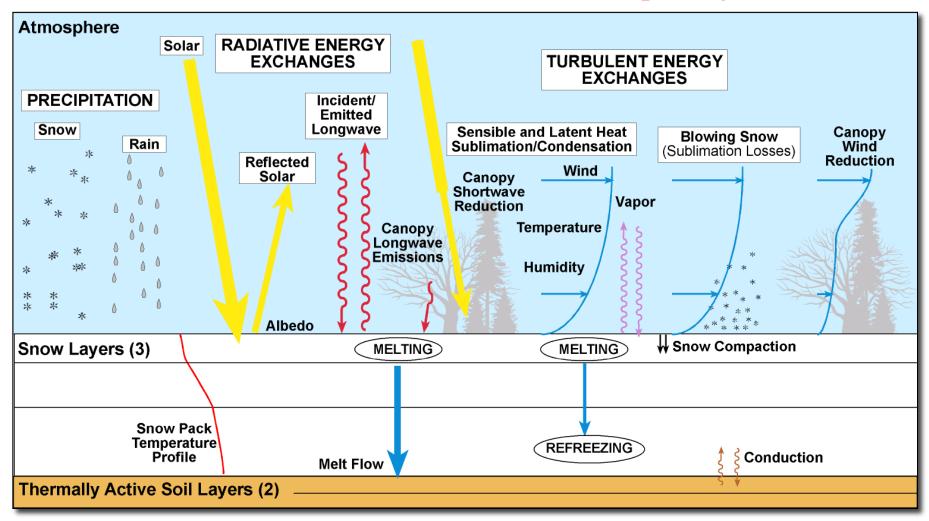
Interactive Maps

Time Series Plots

Text Discussions



NOHRSC Snow Model Physics $(K\downarrow -K\uparrow) + (L\downarrow - L\uparrow) + Q_e + Q_h + Q_g + Q_p = \Delta Q$



Snow Modeling Framework

Hourly Input

Numerical Weather Models (1 km)

Temperature

Relative Humidity

Wind Speed

Solar Radiation

Atmos. Radiation

Precipitation

Precipitation Type

GIS Data (1 km)

Soils Properties

Land Use/Cover

Forest Properties

Snow Energy and Mass Balance Model

Blowing Snow Model

Radiative Transfer Model

State Variables for

Multiple Vertical

Snow & Soil Layers

Snow Water Equivalent

Snow Depth

Snow Temperature

Liquid Water Content

Snow Sublimation

Snow Melt

Data Assimilation

Snow Observations

Snow Water Equivalent

Snow Depth

Snow Cover

NSA Product

Generation

Interactive Maps

Digital Data

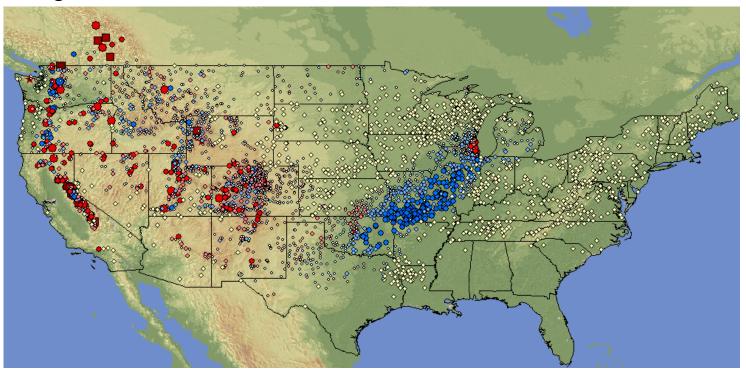
Discussions

1

Snow Observational Assimilation

Daily SWE and Snow Depth Observations are used to update the model

If pattern of differences is explainable, an update field is generated and used to nudge the model toward observed states



- Uncertainties in driving data
 - RUC2 precipitation under/over estimation
 - Typing issue; rain/ snow
 - Placement of storm track

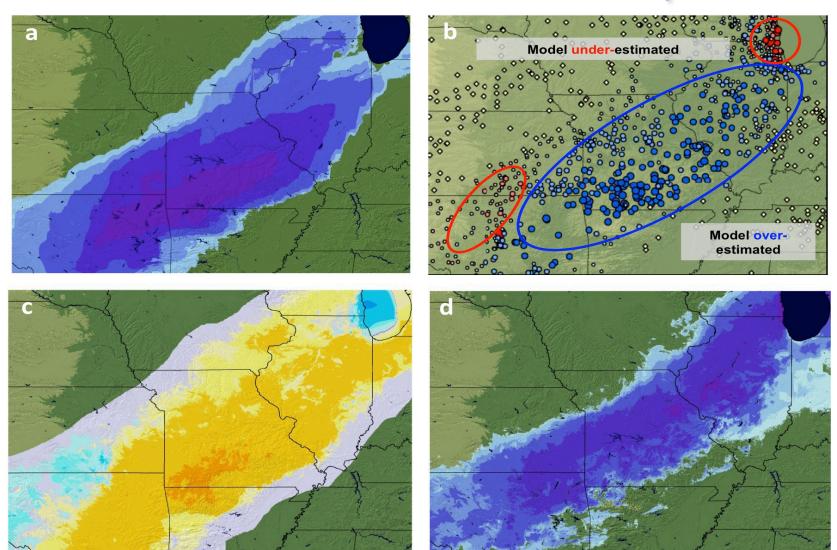


NOHRSC

Uncertainties due to model physics

- Melt problems due to temperature bias
- Sublimation rates

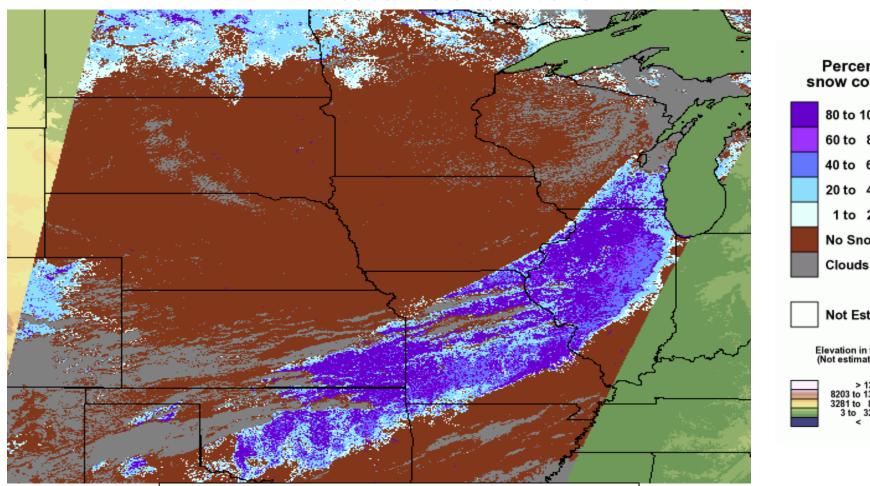
Assimilation Example





Assimilation Example

Satellite Snow Cover



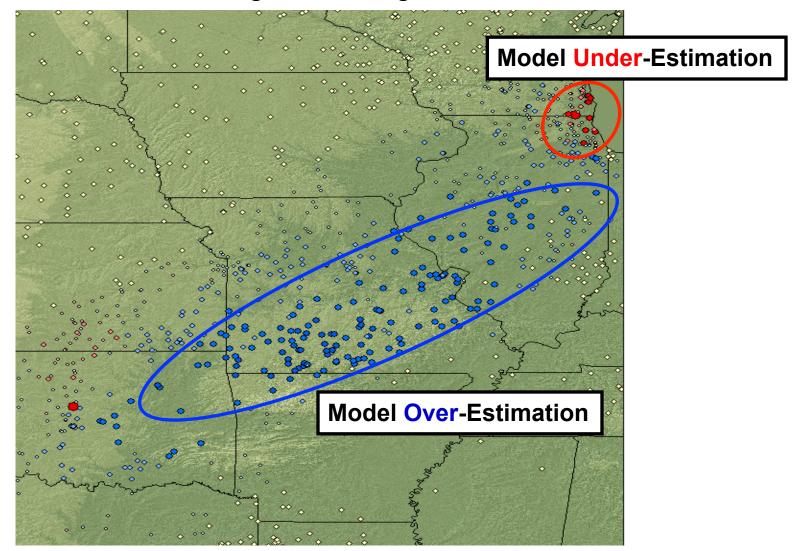
Percent snow cover 80 to 100 60 to 80 40 to 60 20 to 40 1 to 20 No Snow Clouds Not Estimated Elevation in feet (Not estimated)

Fractional Satellite Snow Map December 2, 2007



RUC2 Precipitation Typing

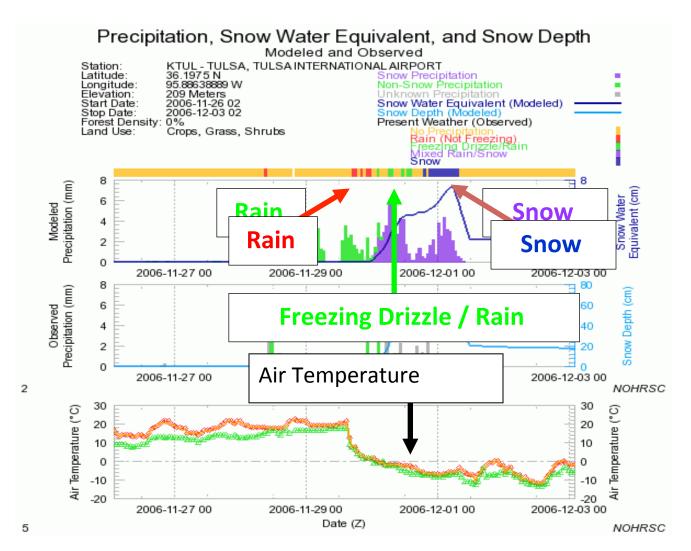
The RUC2 categorized freezing rain as snow.



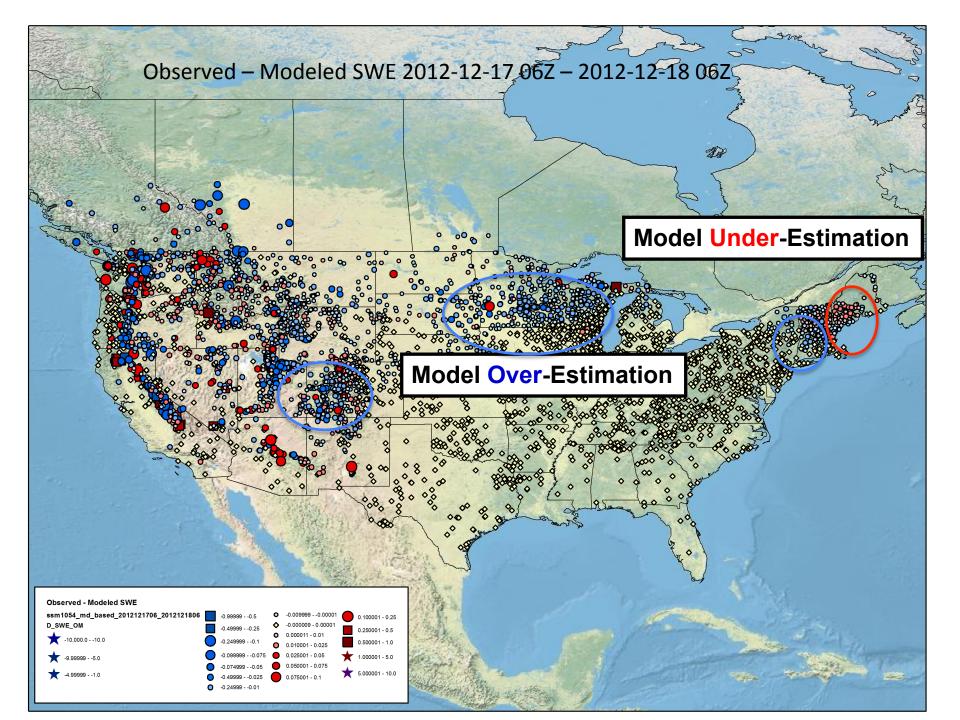


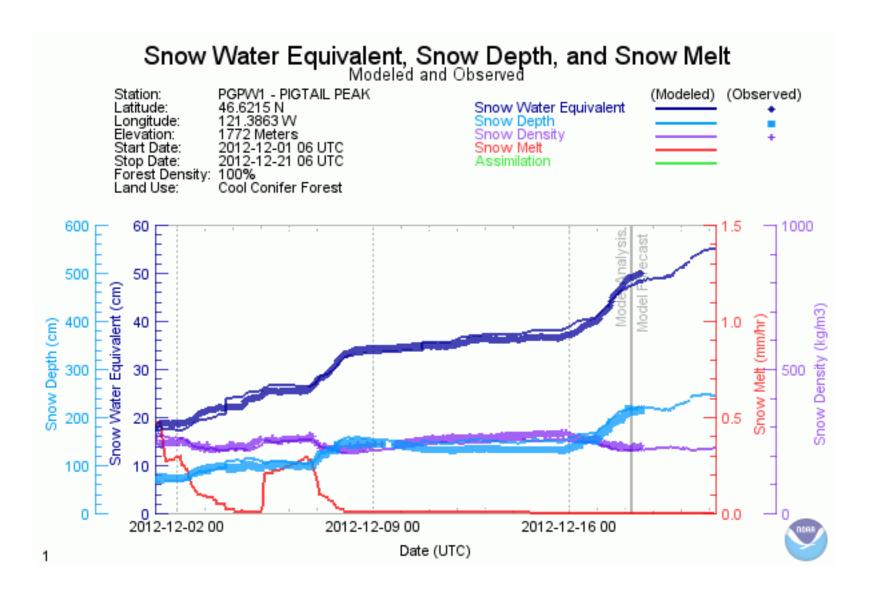
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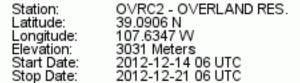






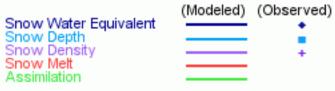


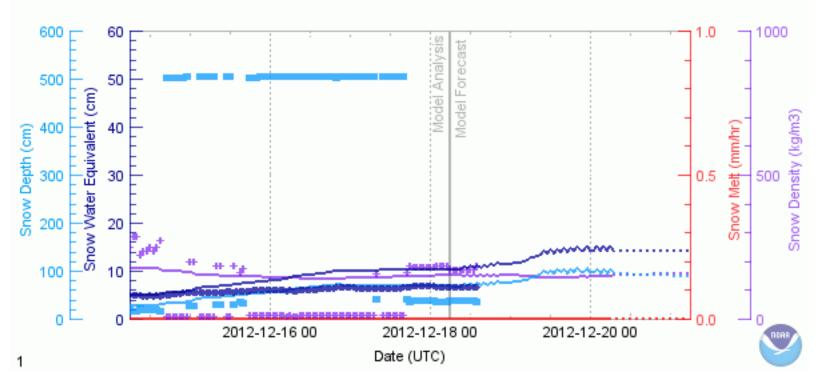
Snow Water Equivalent, Snow Depth, and Snow Melt

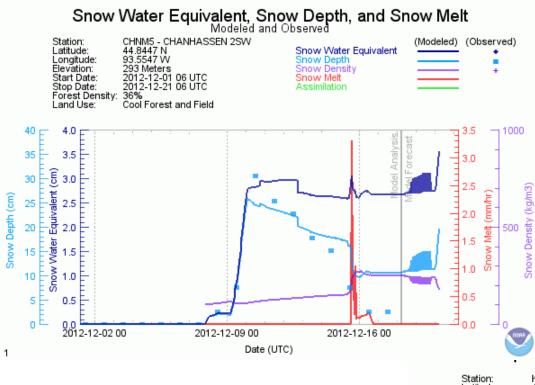


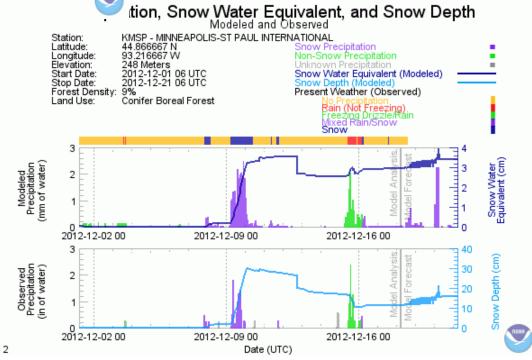
Forest Density: 89%

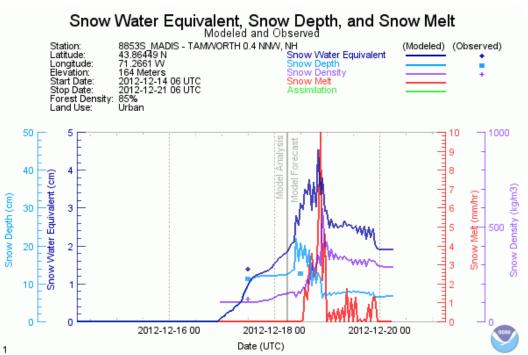
Cool Conifer Forest Land Use:

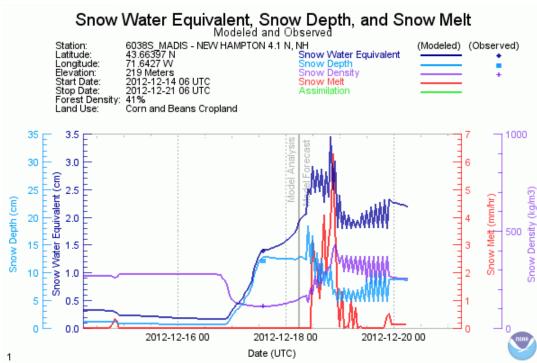












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Ground Airborne Satellite

Numerical Weather Prediction Model Forcings Gridded Snow Characteristics U.S. 1-km² Hourly

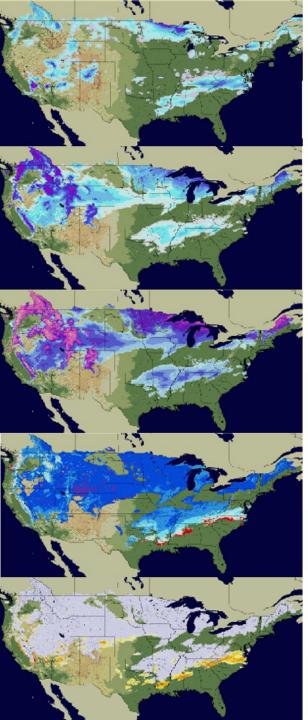
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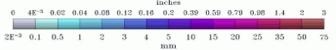
Text Discussions





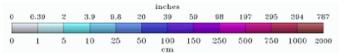
Snowfall

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Snow Depth

2006-02-21 06 UTC



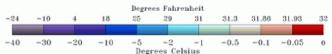
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-							m						

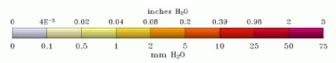
Snowpack Temperature

24-Hour Average Ending 2006-02-21 06 UTC



Snow Melt

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PRODUCTS

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INTERNET

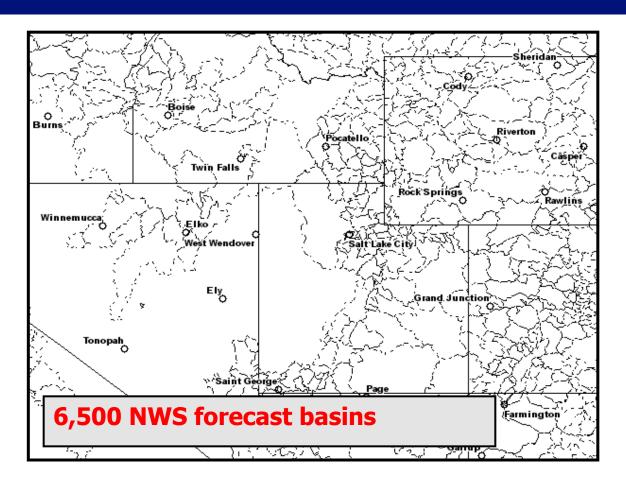
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 - e.g. Google Earth
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- Text summaries by watershed
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DIRECT FEED

- Push or Pull
- Gridded Data
- Flat Binary or GIS-ready

Integrated Modeled / Observed Snowpack State Variables

Daily Basin-by-Basin NSA Products Shipped to Web





National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center

Interactive Snow Information

		Quick Query Link	5
Get Time Series for S	Station ID:	Co Listin	8
Get Time Series for Basin ID:	ABRFC	Co Listin	8
Get Basin Averages for	RFC	Co Listin	9
Get Climatology for §	Station ID:	Co Listin	g

Enter Search Here

Go

River Forecast Center Basins

Submit

Listing of regions

State / Province Basins

Submit

Listing of regions

HUC Basins-

Submit

Listing of regions

County Warning Area Basins

Submit

Listing of regions

NOHRSC Snow Model Text Product Quick Query Page

News

This page is a quick interface to query snow model data from all basins within a specified region. There currently are five types of regions available: River Forecast Center areas, U.S. states (and Canadian provinces), Hydrologic Unit Code areas, County Warning Areas, and individual counties. There are two ways, shown below, to get to the basin information.

- Click on the "Listing of regions" link to display all the regions of that type. Then, click on the name of the region of interest on the new page.
- Or, if the name of the region is already known, type it in the text field next to the
 appropriate region type (i.e. Massachusetts under "State / Province"), and click "Submit."
 To help differentiate the counties, include the 2-letter state abbreviation with the county
 name.

Listing of River Forecast Center (and other basin grouping) regions

(14 regions)

Home

ABREC LMREC NBREC NWREC SEREC

CBRFC MARFC NCRFC NYCDEP WGRFC

CNRFC MBRFC NERFC OHRFC

NOHRSC | Home

Organization

Snow Information | National Analyses | Interactive Maps | 3D Visualization | Airborne Surveys | Satellite Obs | Forecasts | Data Archive | SHEF Products

Science/Technology | NOHRSC | GIS Data Sets

About The NOHRSC | Staff

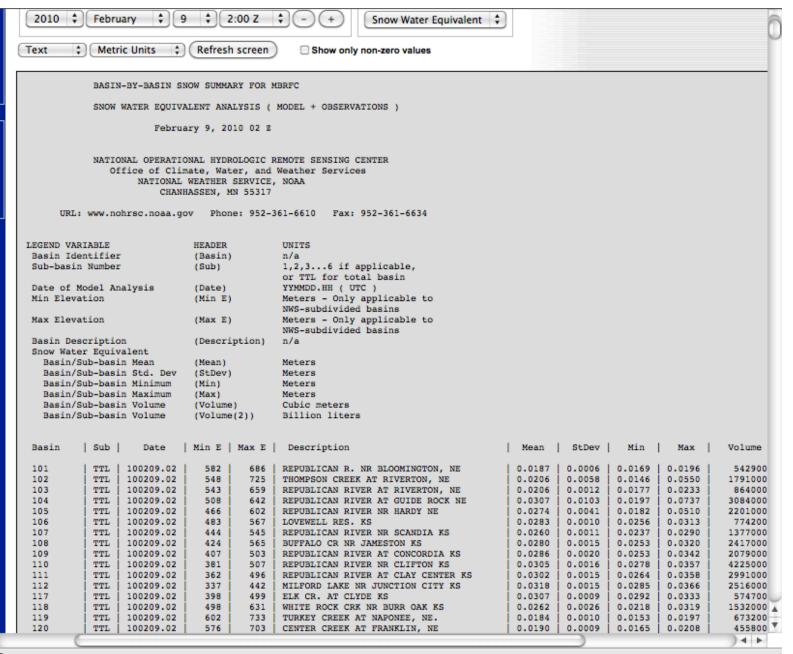
NOAA Links | Snow Climatology | Related Links

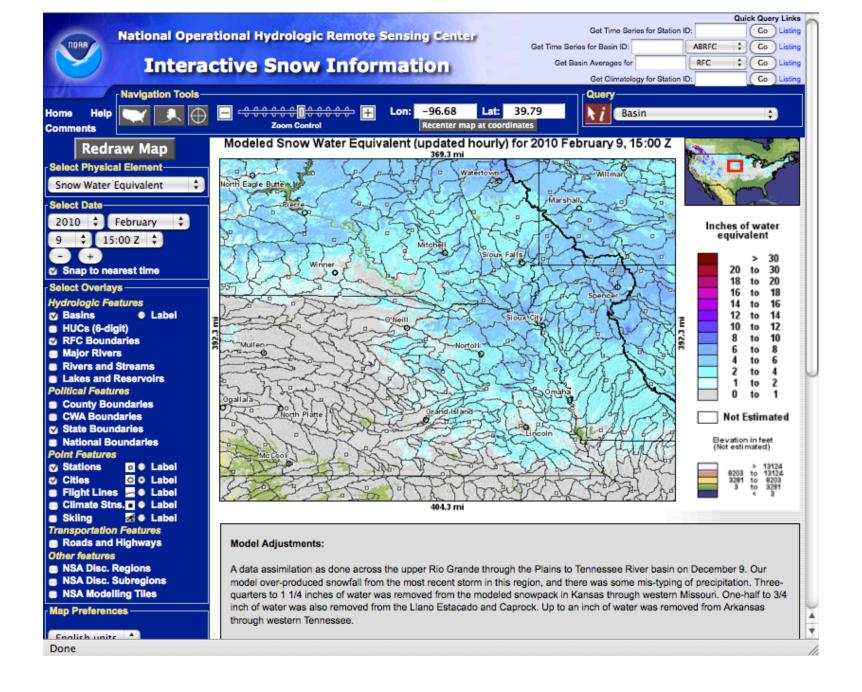
Help | Help and FAQ

Contact Us | Please Send Us Comments!

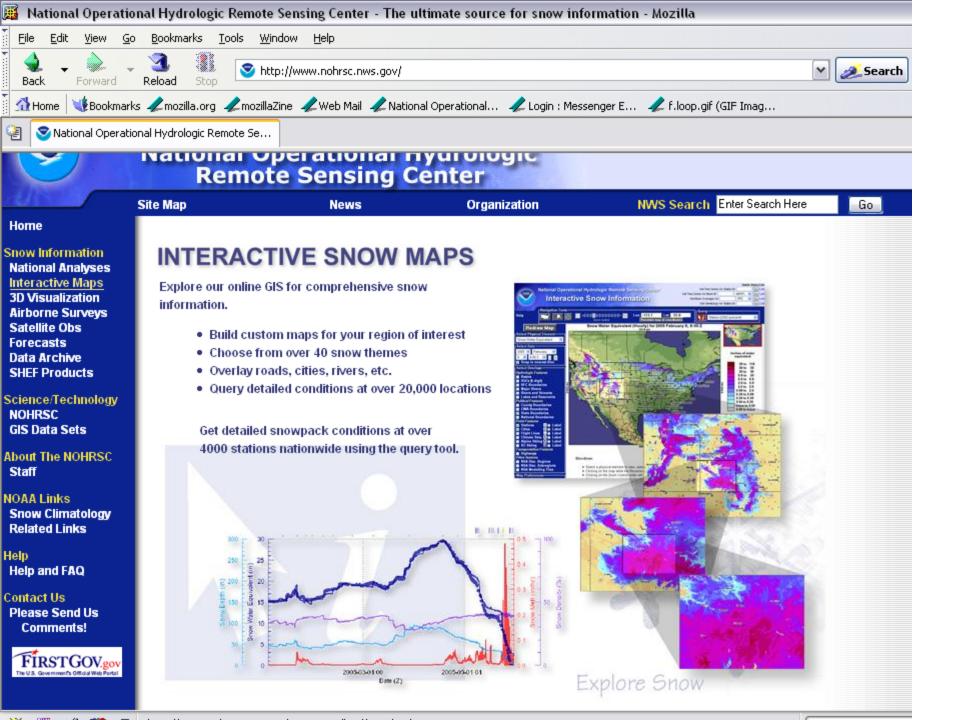
National Weather Service National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center 1735 Lake Drive W. Chanhassen, MN 55317

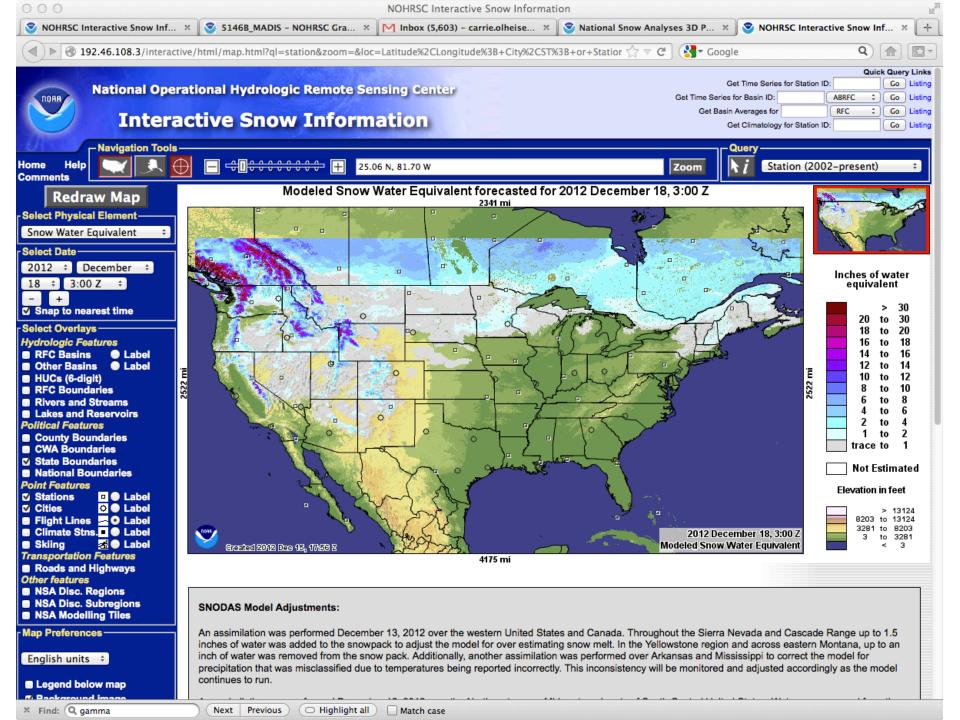


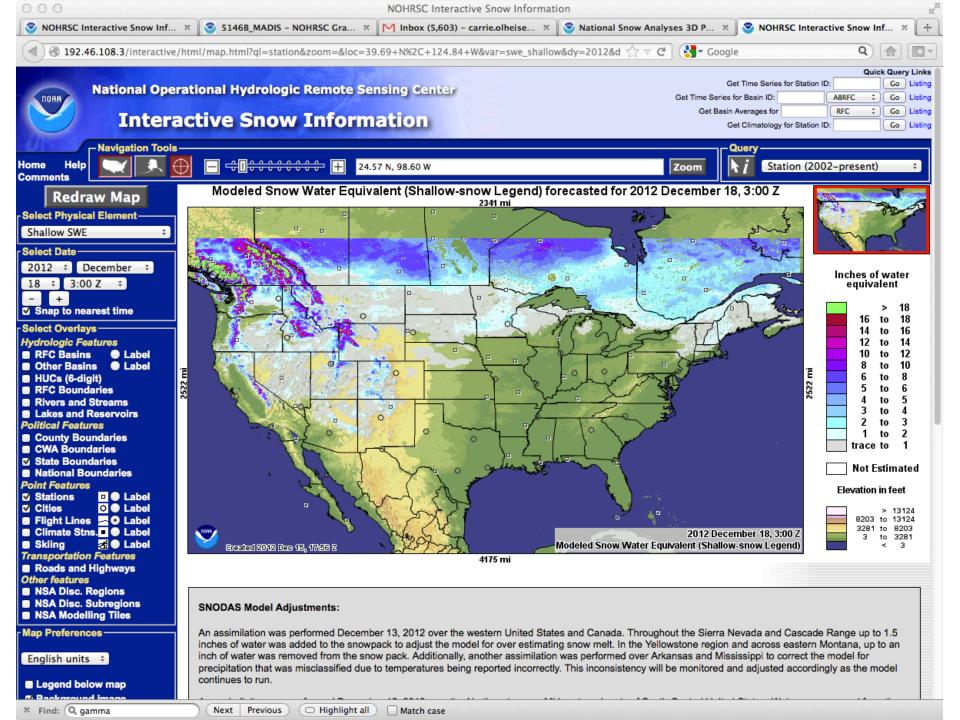


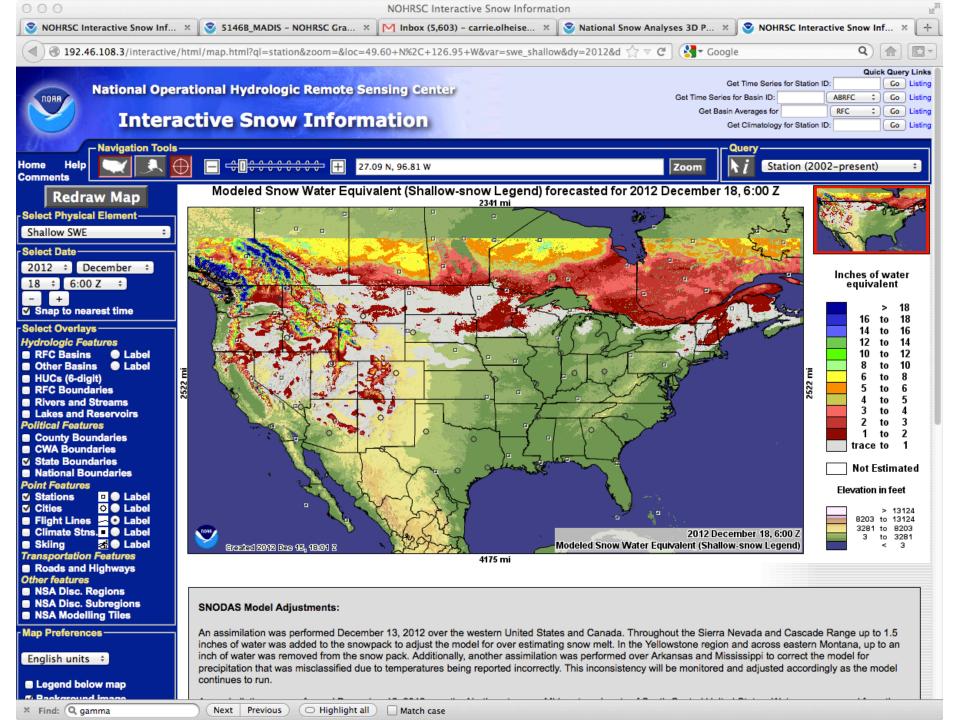


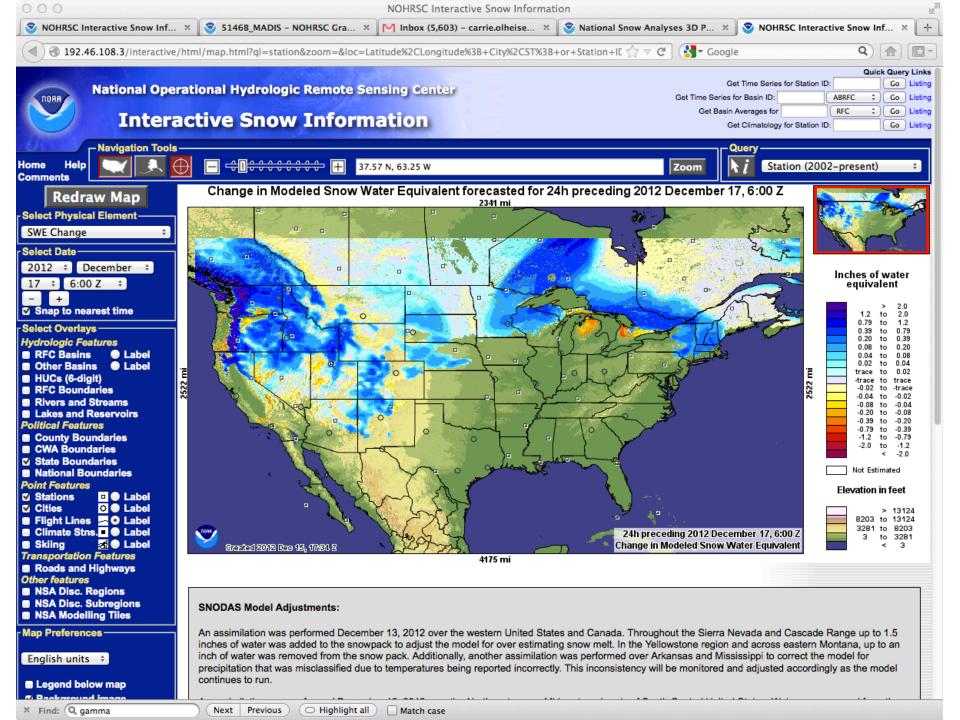
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Query Basin Time Series River Forecast Center Region MBRFC \$	Start Date 2010 \$ Februar Image \$ English			March \$\(\)11 \$\(\)6	:00 Z 🗘
Basin SHEF ID 821 600 px width 400 px height	RFC Name: Mi Start Date: 20 Stop Date: 20 Basin Area: 42	Basin Snow C Mode 11 - ROCK RIVER NR LUVERNE M BRFC 10-02-04 06 10-03-11 06 10 sq. mi 20 sq. mi modeled)		SWE Depth Cover	
Reference Map Links	Modeled Snow Depth (in) 4 And State Equivalent (in) 5 And State Equivalent (in) 7 And State Equivalent (in) 7 And State Equivalent (in) 7 And State Equivalent (in)			100 90 90 80 70 70 60 80 80 70 80 80 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90	
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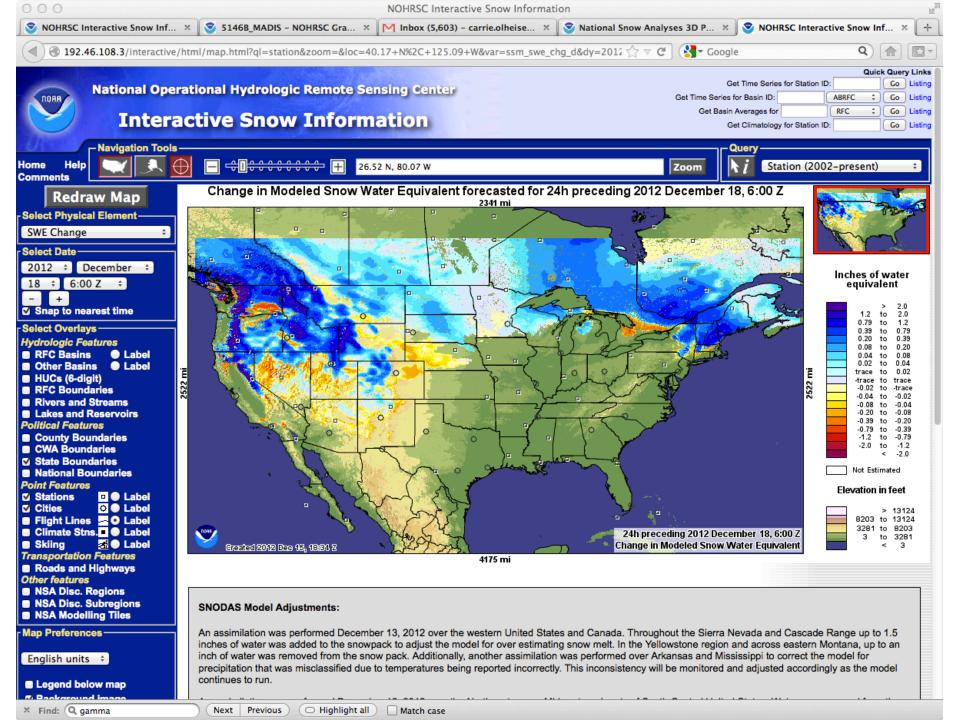


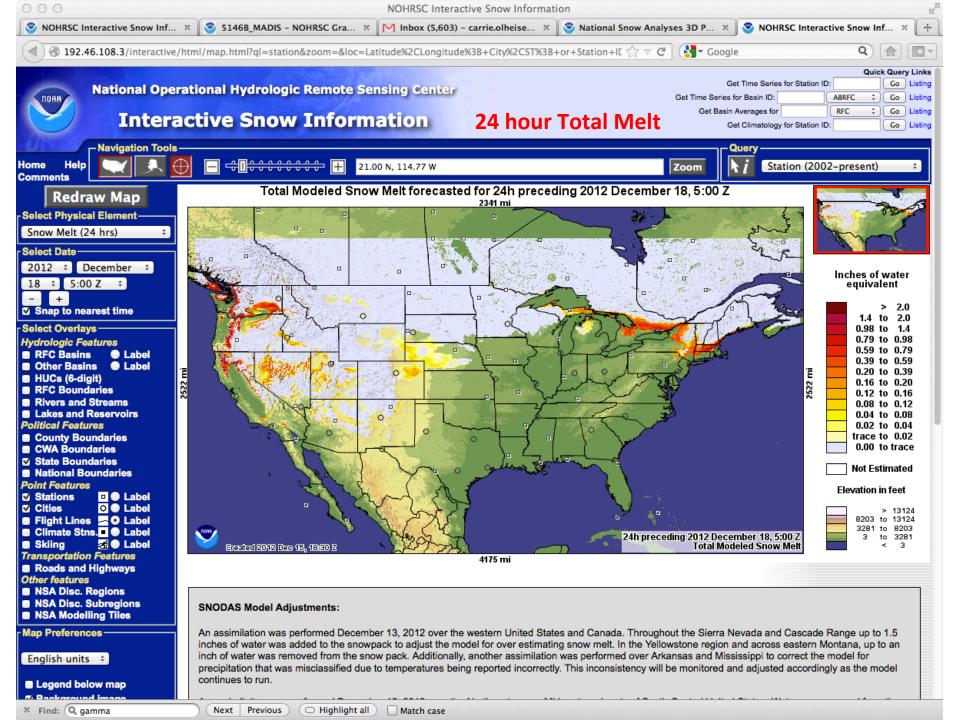


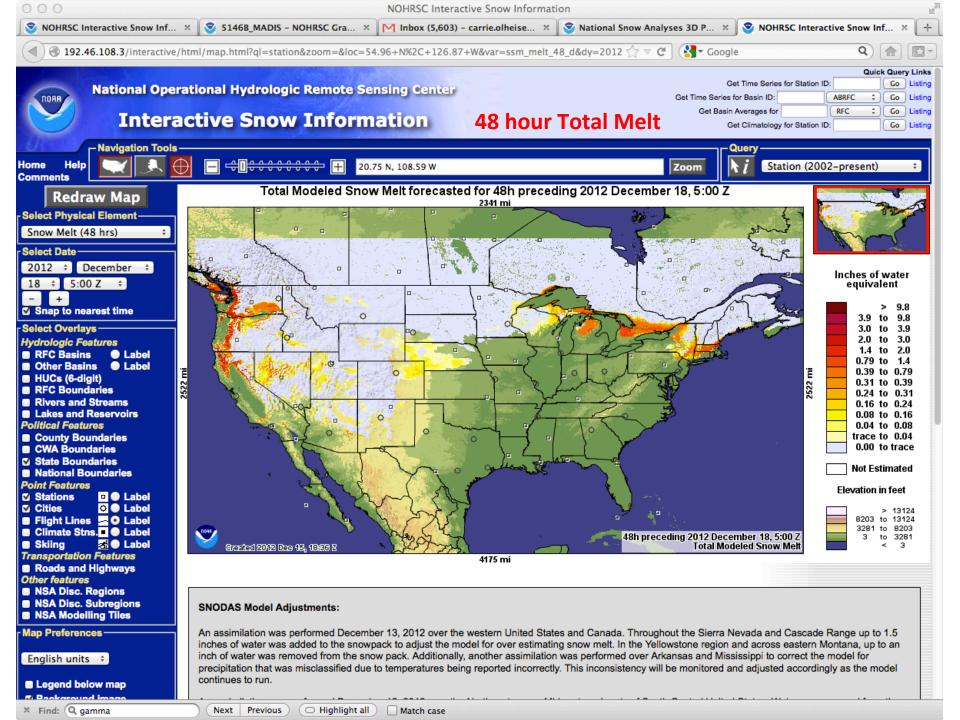


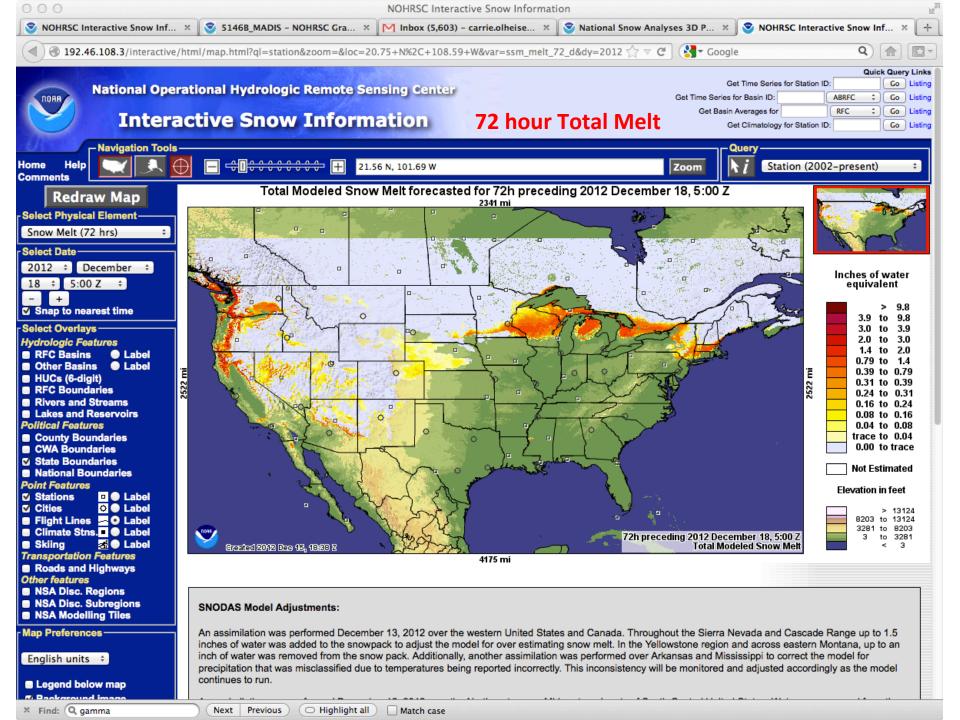


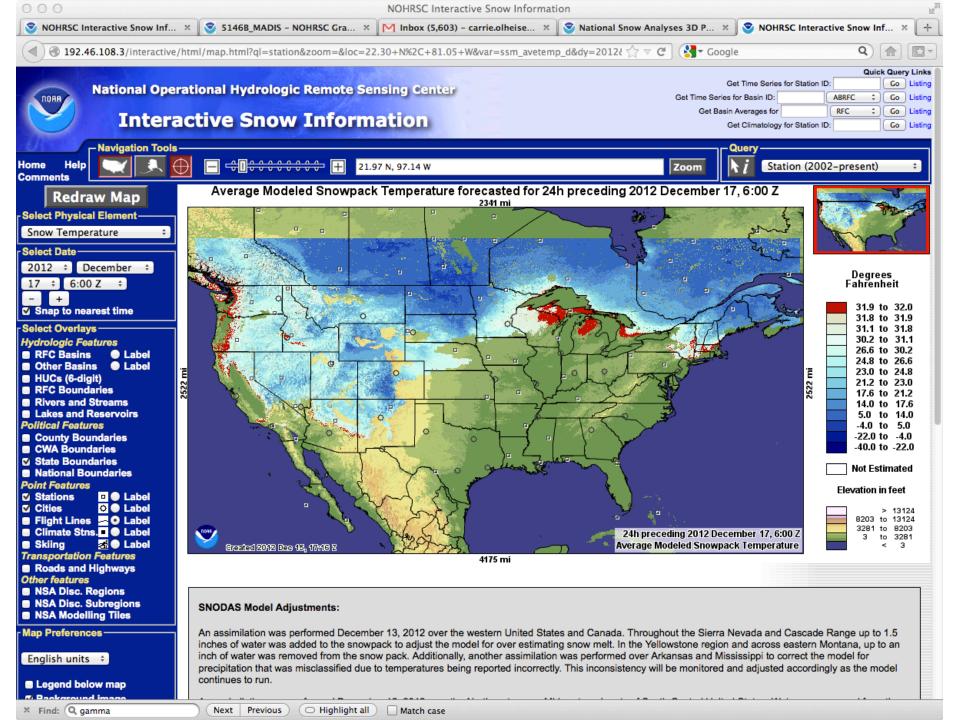


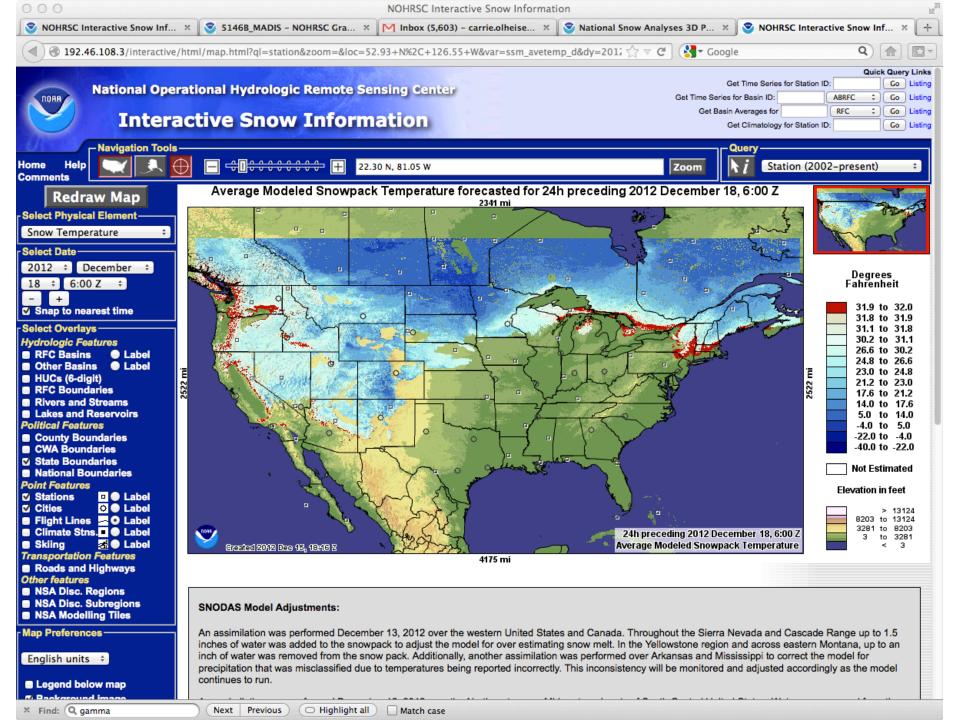


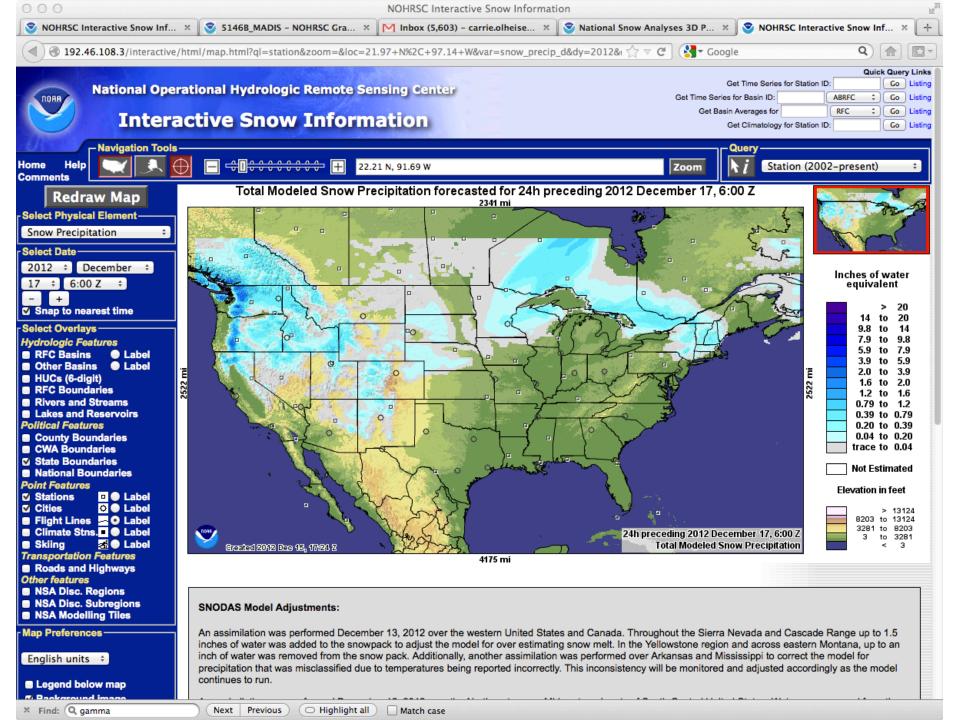


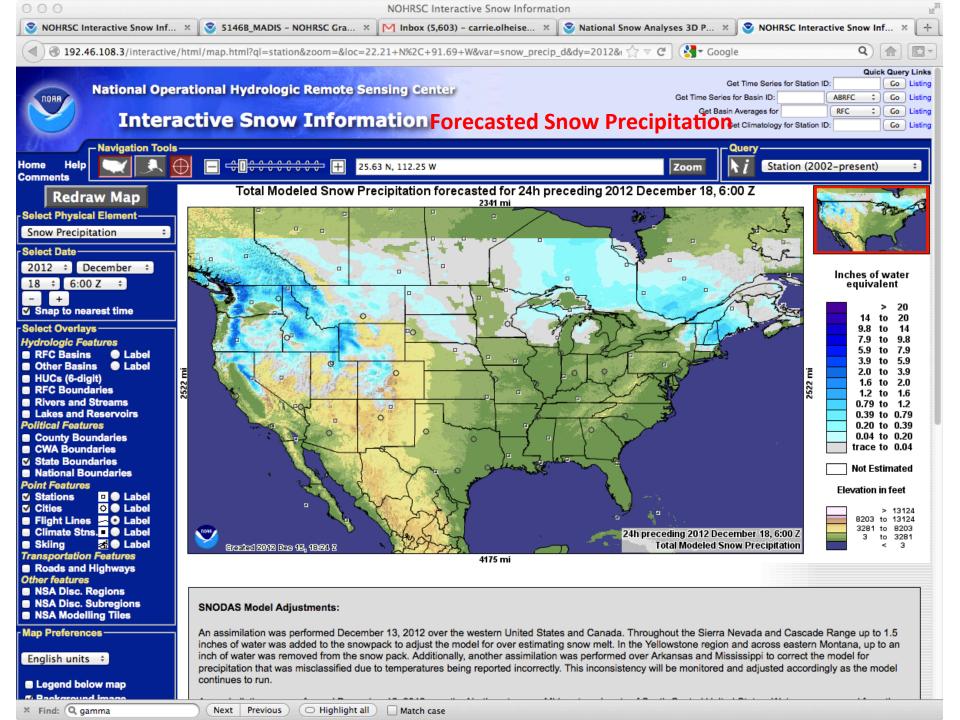




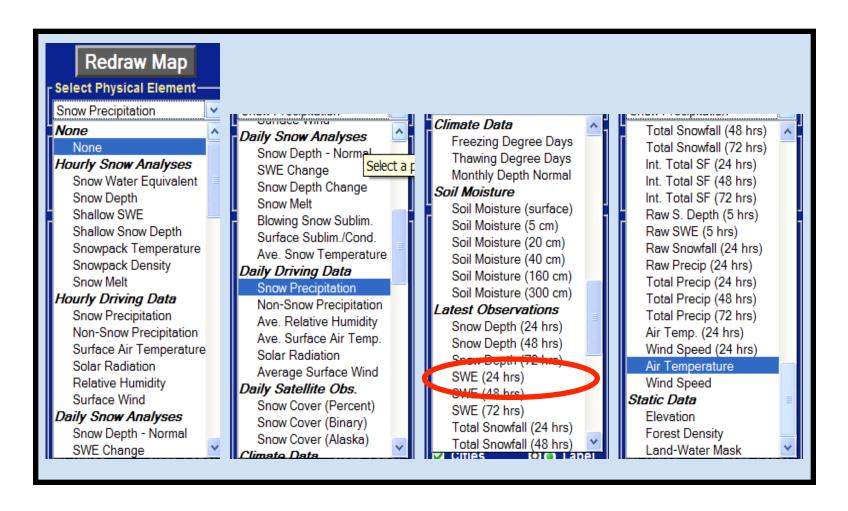


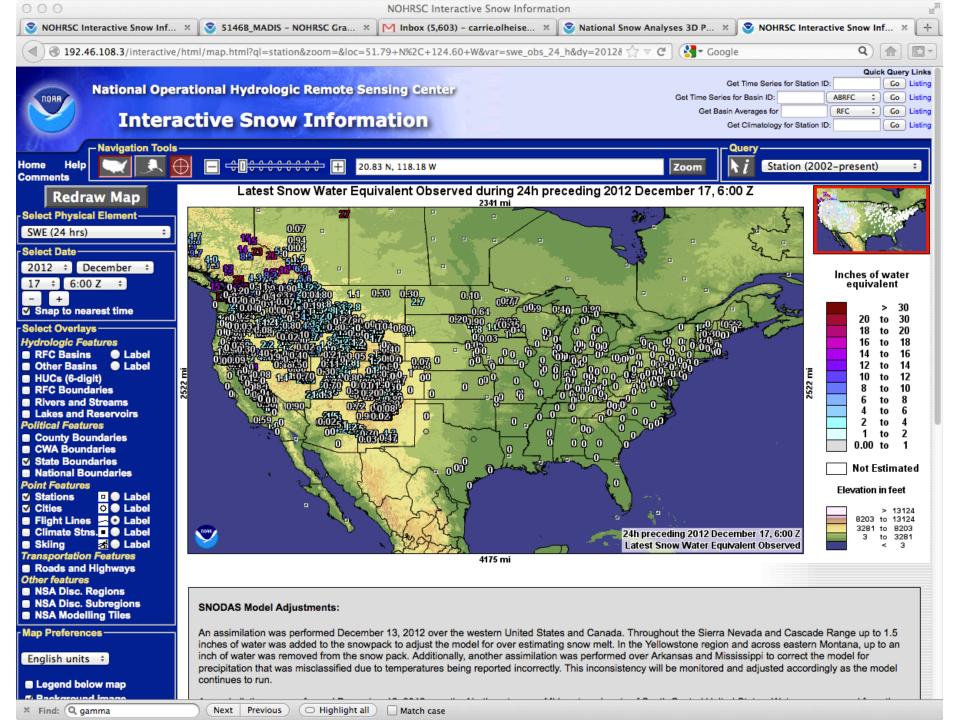


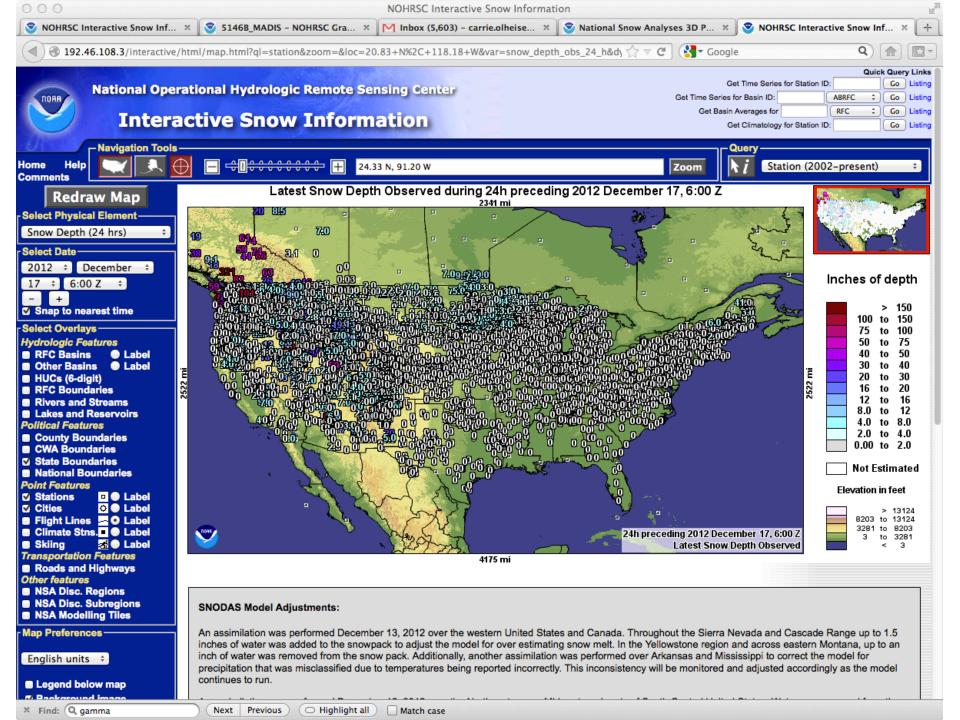


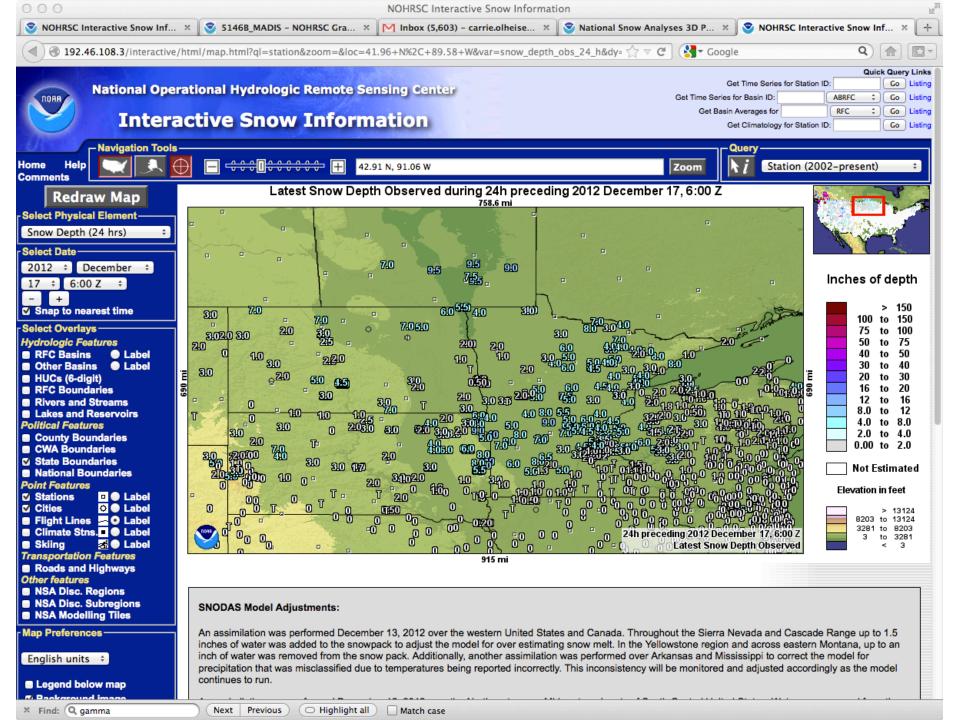


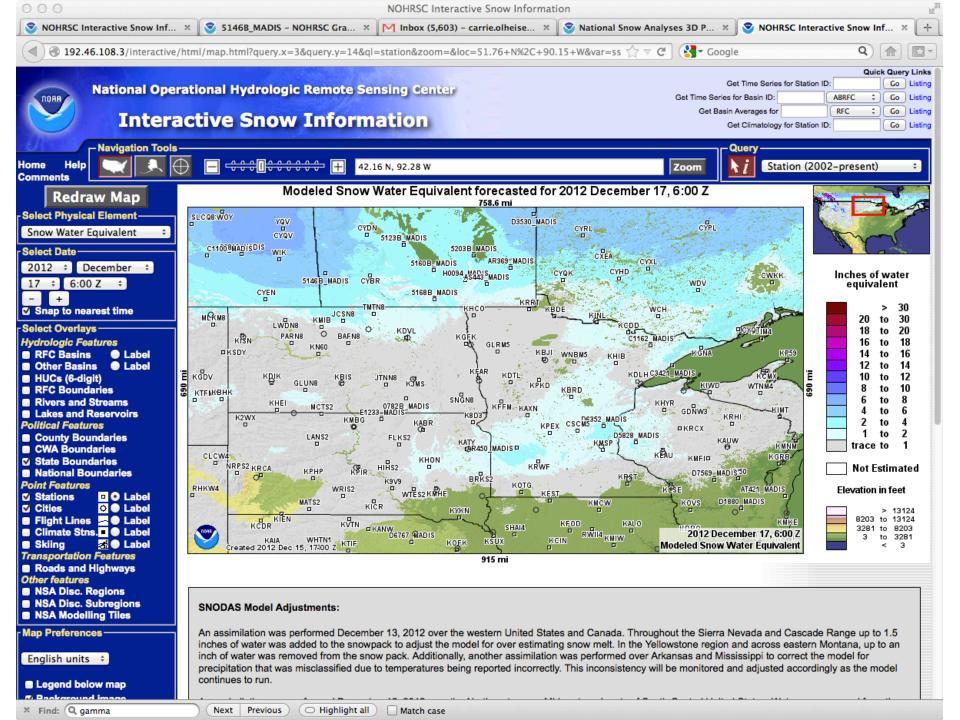
Physical Element Map Options

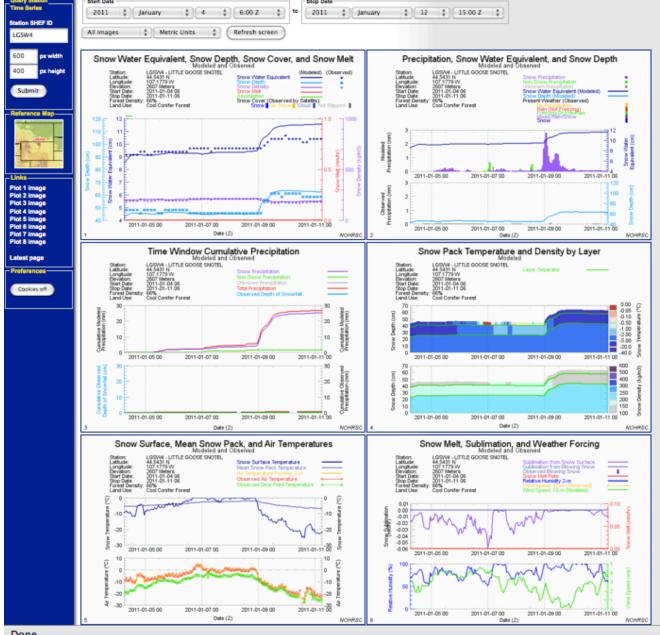


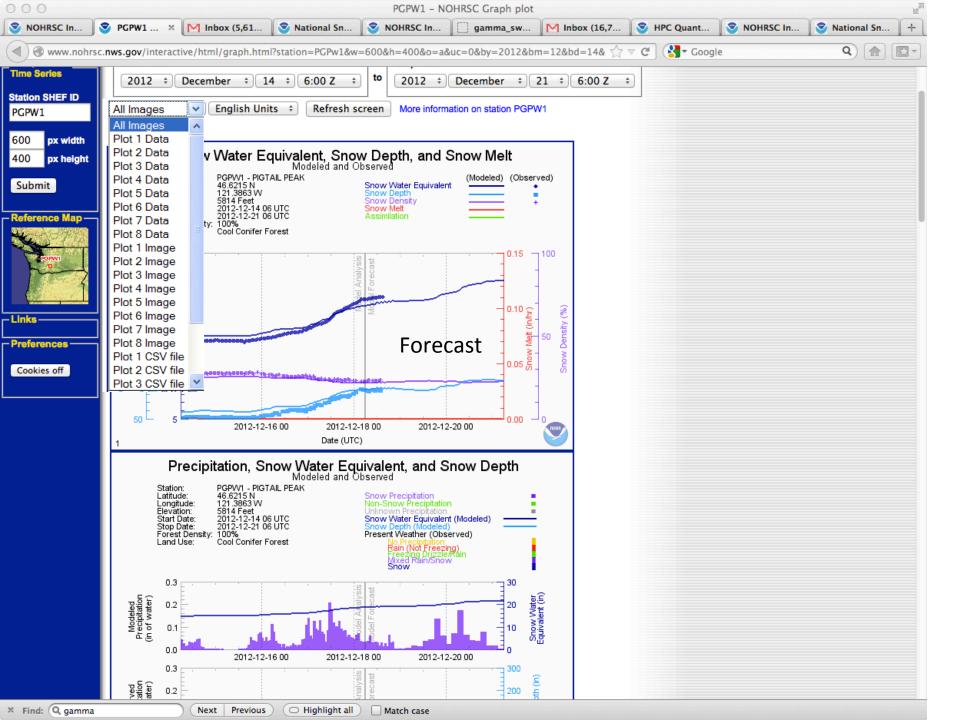








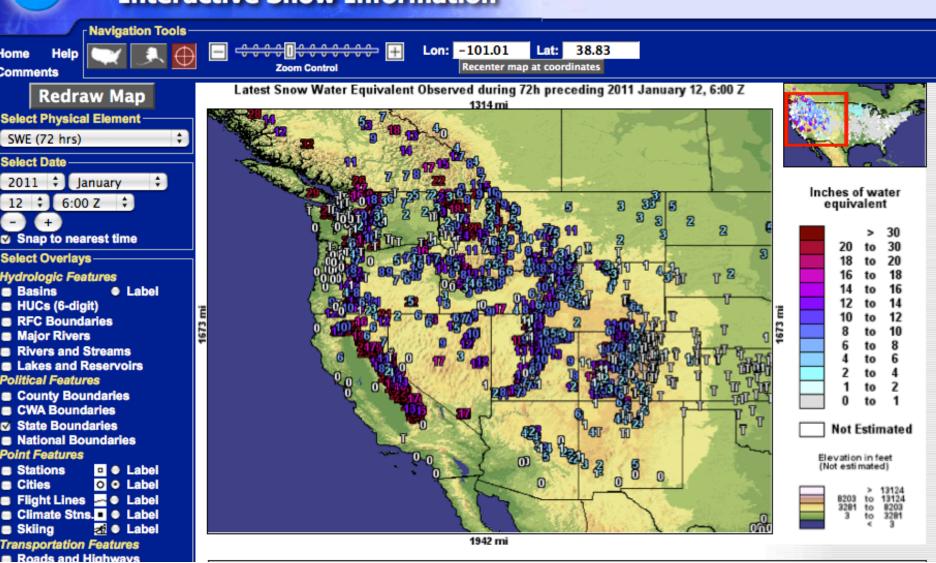




NORA

National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center

Interactive Snow Information



toward the middle Atlantic coast. Four to a inches of show are likely in the southern Great Lakes region, with up to a foot possible in northern Virginia through central Maryland. Light freezing rain is possible on the southern side of this snowband, roughly from western North Carolina through eastern Maryland.

Rapid deepening of the combined low will continue as the low moves offshore by Thursday. A foot of snowfall is likely over a small area of the East Coast, roughly from northern Virginia through eastern Massachusetts. At least 4 inches of snowfall is likely from Lake Erie through southern New Hampshire, south to eastern Virginia and in West Virginia. The system will be far enough to sea that little precipitation is expected on Thursday.

A weak surface low will move into the Southwest from the Pacific today and bring up to a half-foot of snowfall to the southern Sierra Nevada. Widespread light precipitation is expected across the Southwest tomorrow. By Thursday, the low and its associated upper trough will move into the southern Plains, and a surface low is expected to spin up in the northwestern Gulf Coast. Sufficiently-cold air will be in place over the southern Plains to cause up to 1/2 foot of snowfall along the lower Red River on Thursday, with 1/2 to 1 inch of rainfall possible farther south from eastern Texas through Mississippi. This system will move eastward across the northern Gulf during the rest of the week and is expected to hook northeastward to the East Coast by the weekend.

Snow Reports

Top Ten: Metric Units...

-								
Station ID	Name	Elevation (feet)	Snowfall (in)	Duration (hours)	Report Date / Time(UTC)			
LCVP1	LAUREL CAVERNS	2717	34.000	48	2010-02-08 12			
0620H_MADIS	ANGEL FIRE 0.2 SSE, NM	8530	13.000	24	2010-02-08 14			
AGFN5	ANGEL FIRE - INACT	8648	12.000	24	2010-02-08 22			
1539C_MADIS	OURAY .23 NNW, CO	7740	10.100	24	2010-02-08 15			
URYC2	QURAY SPOTTER	7733	10.100	24	2010-02-08 15			
7066A_MADIS	CRIPPLE CREEK 5.1 NW, CO	8533	10.000	24	2010-02-08 15			
EADC2	EADS,CO	4226	10.000	24	2010-02-08 14			
GARO1	UNKNOWN	1030	10.000	24	2010-02-08 12			
WSAC2	SKI AREA	11345	10.000	24	2010-02-08 14			
MSCI4	MASON CITY #1	1132	5.000	12	2010-02-09 05			

Note: these data are unofficial and provisional.

Zip codes (where available) of observations will be included in text files after October 7, 2008.

Station Snowfall Reports

Station Snow Water Equivalent Reports

Station Snowdepth Reports

Model Assimilation

A data assimilation as done across the upper Rio Grande through the Plains to Tennessee River basin on December 9. Our model over-produced snowfall from the most recent storm in this region, and there was some mis-typing of precipitation. Three-quarters to 1 1/4 inches of water was removed from the modeled snowpack in Kansas through western Missouri. One-half to 3/4 inch of water was also removed from the Llano Estacado and Caprock. Up to an inch of water was removed from Arkansas through western Tennessee.

NOHRSC Airborne Snow Survey Program

The Airborne program has no scheduled flights in this region for the week of February 08, 2010.



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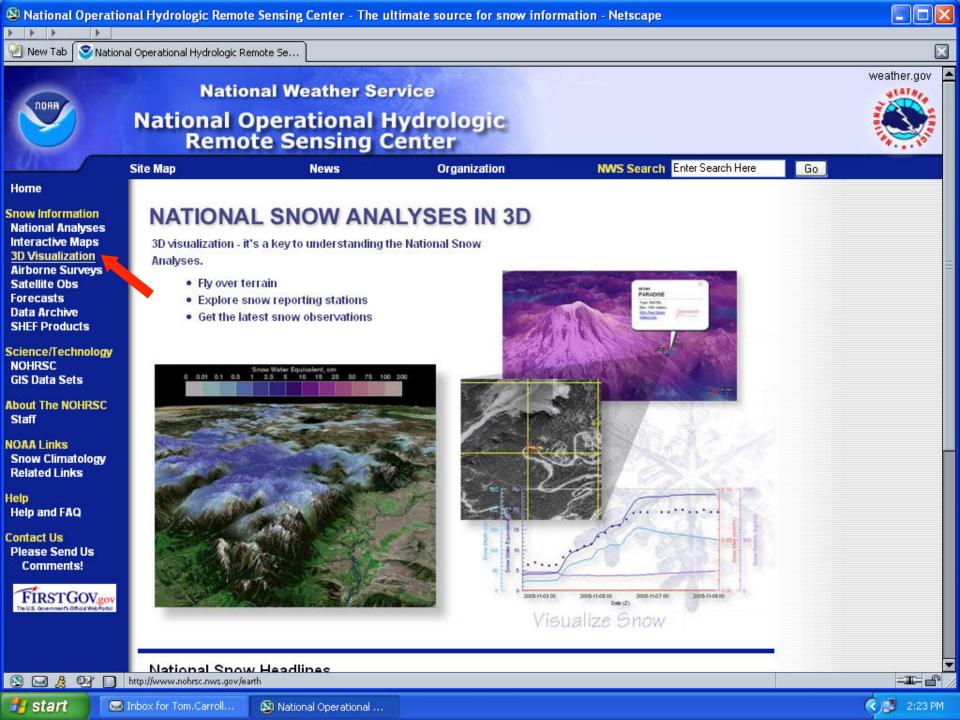


from 2010-02-08 07:00 Z to 2010-02-09 06:00 Z

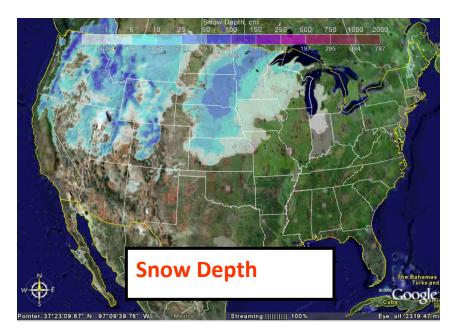
Note: these data are unofficial and provisional.

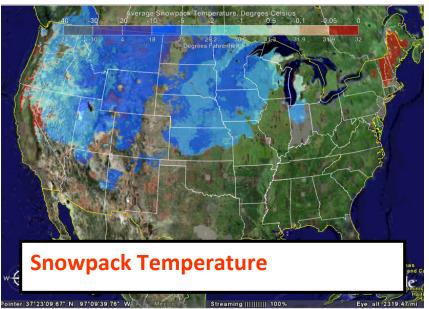
Latitude and longitude of observations will be included in text files after December 1, 2006.

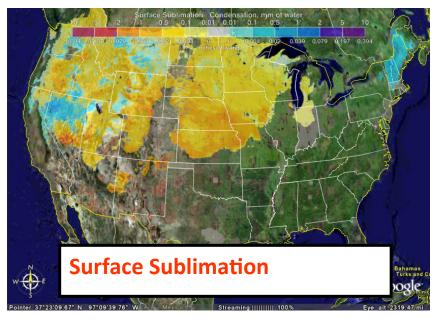
Text file with	Metric units	Text	file with Eng	lish units Table with Metric Units
Station ID	Date (UTC)	Value (in)	Elevation (feet)	Station Description
LLPC1	2010-02-09 06	72.340	8248	LOWER LASSEN PEAK SNOW COURSE
EPSW1	2010-02-09 06	65.500	5249	21A07 - EASY PASS AM
SLTC1	2010-02-08 12	53.900	5712	SLATE CREEK
RRMC1	2010-02-08 12	47.100	6260	RED ROCK MOUNTAIN
SHMC1	2010-02-08 12	46.800	6411	SHIMMY LAKE GOES
HIGC1	2010-02-08 12	45.200	5922	HIGHLANDS LAKES GOES
BKHW1	2010-02-09 06	44.800	4633	BUCKINGHORSE
SDFC1	2010-02-08 12	44.100	6827	SAND FLAT
SWCW1	2010-02-09 06	42.400	4491	SWIFT CREEK
BNKC1	2010-02-08 12	41.000	5846	BONANZA KING
BKLC1	2010-02-09 06	40.800	5771	BUCKS LAKE
HRKC1	2010-02-09 06	40.700	4534	HARKNESS FLAT
STMC1	2010-02-08 12	40.300	5299	STOUTS MEADOW GOES
TAHQ2	2010-02-09 06	38.770	5184	TAHTSA LAKE WEST SNOW PILLOW
AFSW1	2010-02-09 06	38.300	5151	PARADISE
MTCQ2	2010-02-09 06	37.800	5180	MOUNT COOK
SZKQ2	2010-02-09 06	37.200	3583	SPUZZUM CREEK SNOW PILLOW
CWRQ2	2010-02-09 06	36.930	5141	CHILLIWACK RIVER SNOW PILLOW
LLSC1	2010-02-09 06	36.820	8274	LAKE LOIS
MRSW1	2010-02-09 06	36.500	5413	MORSE LAKE
TENQ2	2010-02-09 06	36.500	5482	TENQUILLE LAKE
LYLW1	2010-02-09 06	35.800	6516	LYMAN LAKE
AZUQ2	2010-02-09 06	35.750	5331	AZURE RIVER
LELC1	2010-02-09 06	34.600	9606	LEAVITT LAKE
REDQ2	2010-02-09 06	34.200	6818	REDFISH CREEK
HRSC1	2010-02-08 12	34.100	8809	HORSE MEADOWS
MOLQ2	2010-02-09 06	33.620	4941	MOLSON CREEK SNOW PILLOW
TSAQ2	2010-02-09 06	33.460	4482	TSAI CREEK
MDBC1	2010-02-08 12	33.100	6703	MIDDLE BOULDER 1 SNOW COURSE
PCRW1	2010-02-09 06	31.900	4829	PARK CREEK RIDGE
CAYW1	2010-02-09 06	31.800	5364	CAYUSE PASS
MRTW1	2010-02-09 06	31.000	3550	MARTEN RIDGE
VNVC1	2010-02-08 12	31.000	6752	VAN VLECKV_REMARKS=
WHSW1	2010-02-09 06	30.800	5007	WATERHOLE
MELC1	2010-02-08 12	30.300	7513	MEADOW LK SNOW COURSE



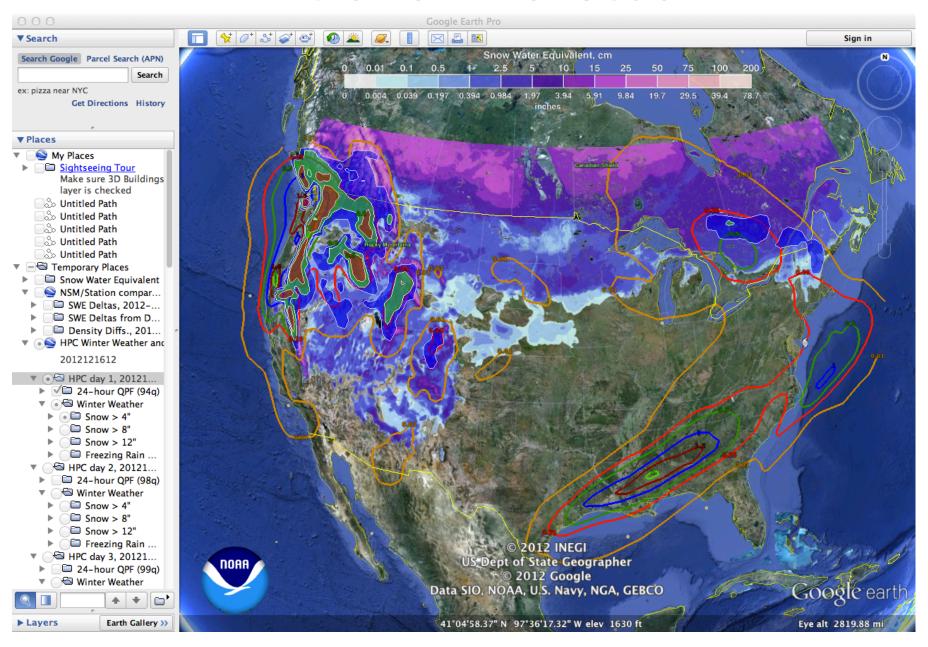


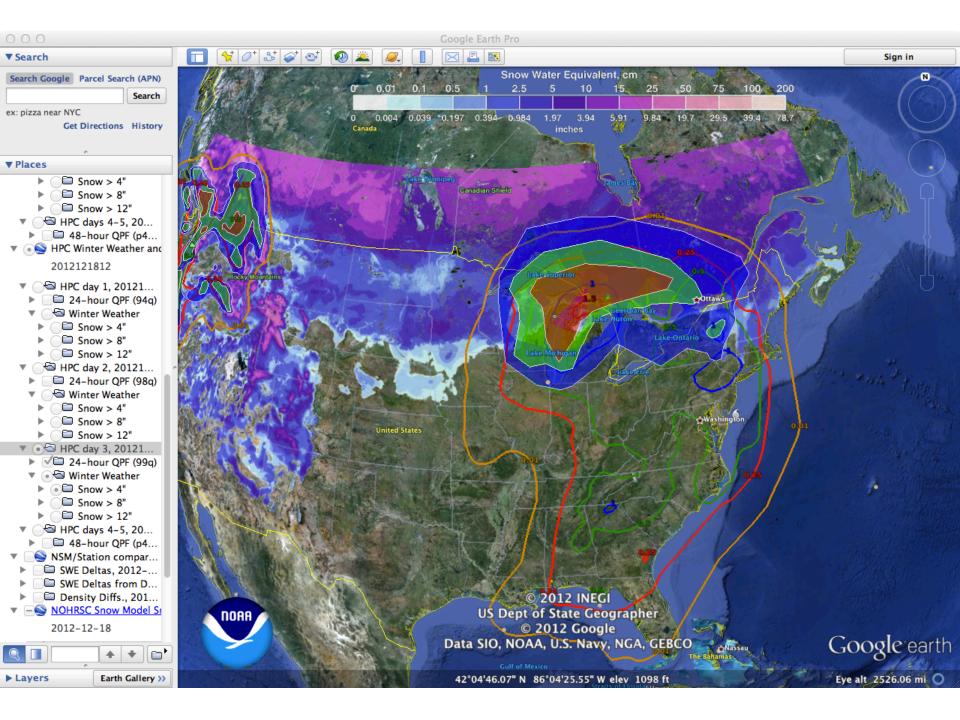


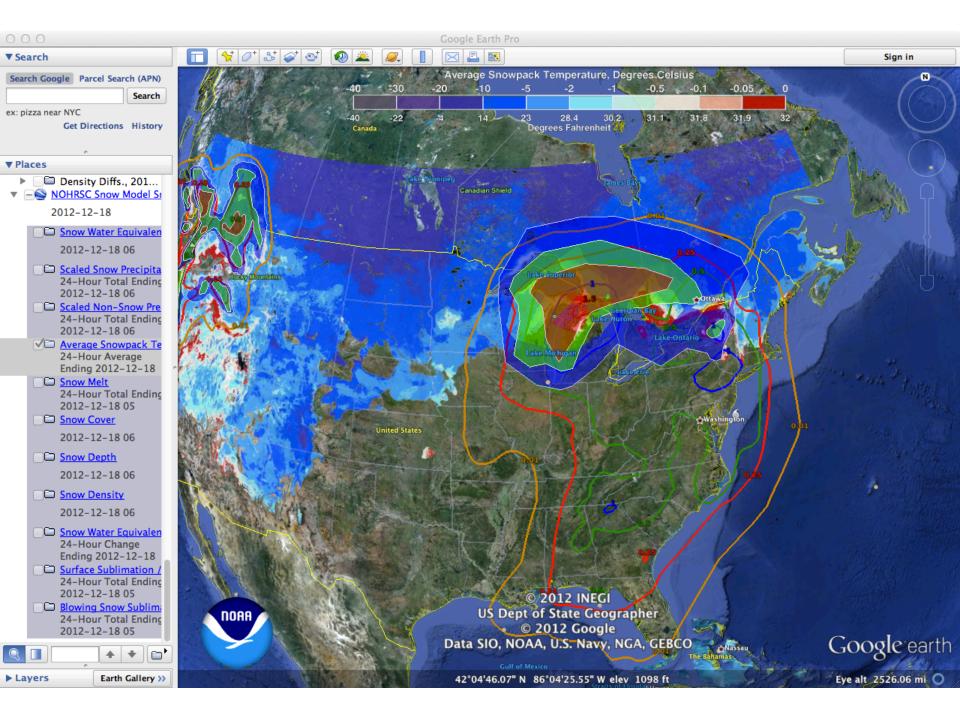




HPC Snow Forecast







http://www.nohrsc.noaa.gov/snow_model/GE/20110112/nohrsc_ns -

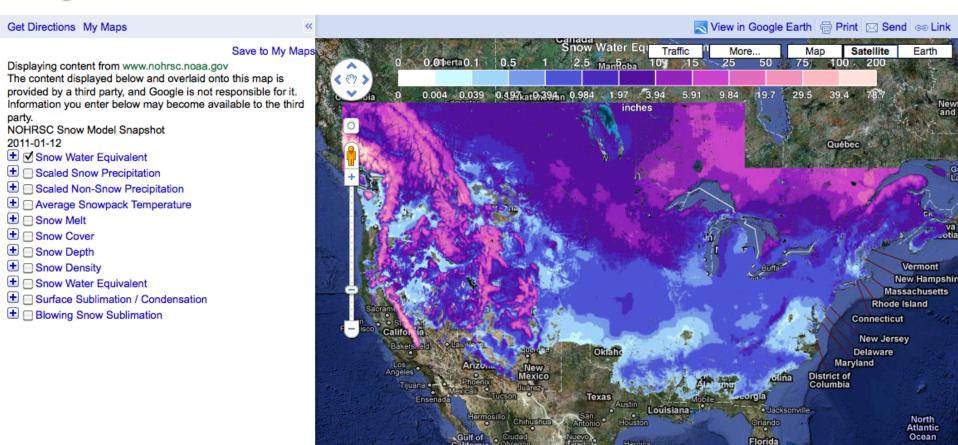
500 mi

500 km

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Nearest observations to

Salt Lake City, UT

Note: these data are unofficial and provisional.

I	Location and Date
	Enter your "City, ST" Salt Lake City, UT Go
	English † 2012 † December † 15 † - +

Closest 5 observations near Salt Lake City, UT 40.76°N, -111.89°W (Elevation: 4262 ft)

Latest between 2012-12-15 06:00 Z and 2012-12-16 06:00 Z

Raw Snowfall Observations

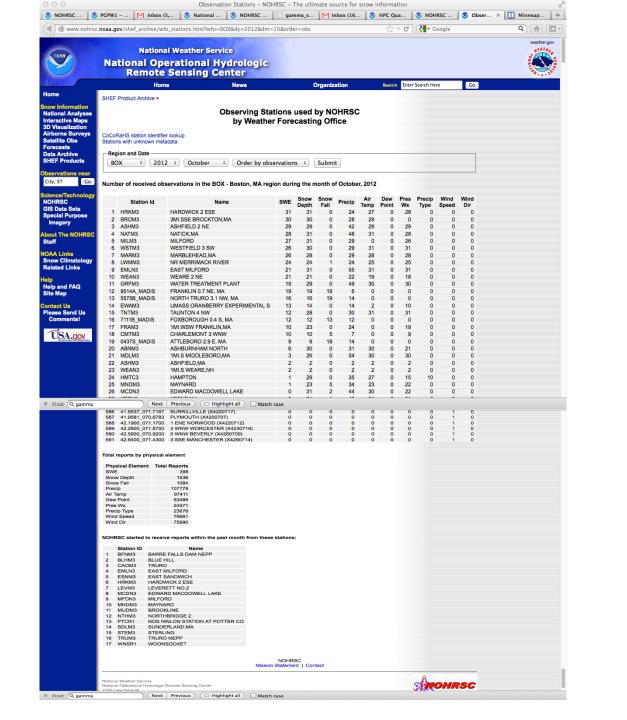
Station ID	Name	Elev. (ft)	Raw Snowfall (in)	Duration (hours)	Date (UTC)	Distance
8921O_MADIS	SALT LAKE CITY 3.3 E, UT	4577	2.80	24	2012-12-15 14	1.6 mi ENE
3514H_MADIS	SALT LAKE CITY 2.1 SE, UT	4321	2.50	24	2012-12-15 14	1.7 mi SE
1565R_MADIS	SOUTH SALT LAKE 2.9 NE, UT	4344	2.20	24	2012-12-15 14	1.8 mi ESE
4292S_MADIS	SALT LAKE CITY 3.6 SE, UT	4606	4.00	24	2012-12-15 14	3.6 mi ESE
3519H_MADIS	SALT LAKE CITY 4.9 SE, UT	4633	5.40	24	2012-12-15 15	4.5 mi ESE

Snow Depth Observations

Station ID	Name	Elev. (ft)	Snow Depth (in)	Date (UTC)	Distance
3514H_MADIS	SALT LAKE CITY 2.1 SE, UT	4321	2.50	2012-12-15 14	1.7 mi SE
1565R_MADIS	SOUTH SALT LAKE 2.9 NE, UT	4344	2.00	2012-12-15 14	1.8 mi ESE
NHMU_MADIS	NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM UTAH	5082	3.68	2012-12-16 05	3.6 mi E
KSLC	SALT LAKE CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	4222	1.00	2012-12-15 18	4.3 mi WNW
SLC	SALT LAKE CITY INTL ARPT	4219	0.00	2012-12-16 00	4.3 mi WNW

Snow Water Equivalent Observations

Station ID	Name	Elev. (ft)	Snow Water Equivalent (in)	Date (UTC)	Distance
3514H_MADIS	SALT LAKE CITY 2.1 SE, UT	4321	0.33	2012-12-15 14	1.7 mi SE
9190H_MADIS	WEST VALLEY CITY 2.5 ESE, UT	4334	0.33	2012-12-15 15	6.7 mi SW
LMSU1	LOUIS MEADOW	6772	3.90	2012-12-16 05	8.2 mi ENE
75300_MADIS	SANDY 2.0 NE, UT	4649	0.85	2012-12-15 14	11 mi SSE
PCRU1	PARRISH CREEK	7795	5.50	2012-12-16 05	12.6 mi NNE



New for 2013 Snow Season

- Forecast products are now operational from 24 to 72 hours
- Adding basin average SHEF products, including forecasts.
 - We are now generating 6 hourly products per RFC request.
 - These are available over AWIPS or web
- 6 hourly GRIB2 products Available via ftp / soon over AWIPS
- Accumulated Melt Grids and SHEF products.
- Additional Snow Data ingestion to support assimilation in Southern Canada including portions of Quebec, The Great Lakes Drainage, The Souris, and the Red River Valley.



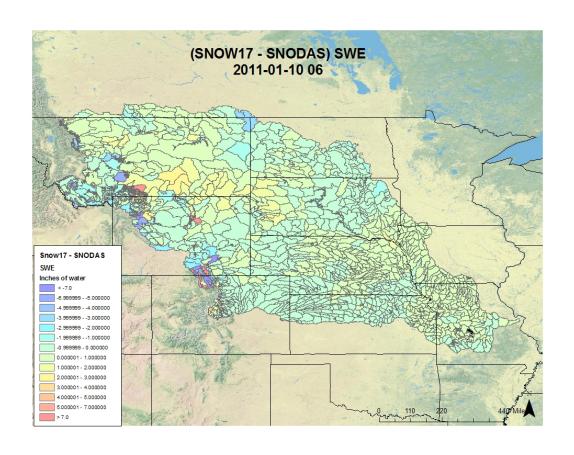
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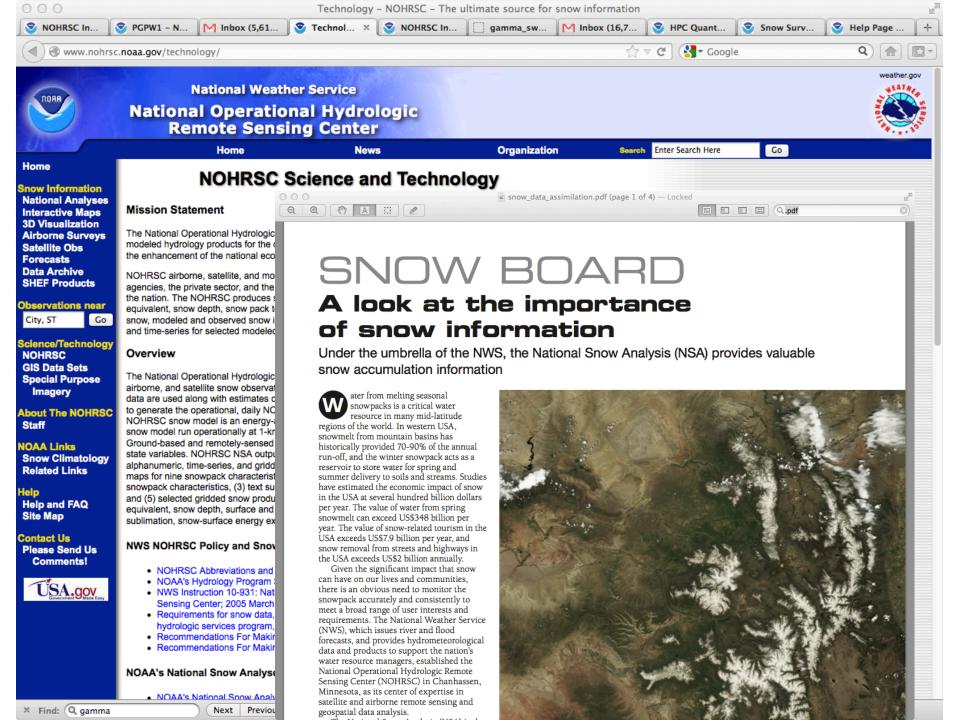
New Collaboration!

Weekly teleconferences started 3 years ago and expand each year.

Forecast offices are welcome to participate.

New weekly teleconferences within Western Regions possibly CBRFC and NWRFC?







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